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World
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promises self-rule to Kurdistan

U. from March 23 (R)—Iraqi leaders today promised self-rule for the country's three million Kurds and calm in the west. Iraqi Minister Ahmad Sadr, negotiating with Kurdish representatives in Sanan, had pledged semi-autonomy along the lines of states in Iraq and the first reactions had been very favourable. Reuters said that under the proposals made to the Kurds, they would be taught along with Farsi (Persian) in schools for the first time. Random interviews in this area where at least 91 people died in a three-day gun week—confirmed the minister's appraisal of the Kurds to his proposals. Mr. Javadi was accompanied to Ayatollah Mahmoud Taleghani of Tehran, one of the leaders closest to Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

JORDAN TIMES

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Sharif Nasser Ibn Jamil dies



Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces. He retired from that position on June 12, 1970 and went into private business, establishing an agricultural-industrial complex in Azraq, where he introduced new crops to the desert region, as well as new agricultural industries. He always depended on his former colleagues in the armed forces, who, like him, retired after long service. Sharif Nasser was well-known for his love of horses; he owned one of the biggest stables in the Middle East where pure Arab pedigrees were bred. His horses always participated in Amman's weekly races and often won. In addition, he enjoyed fishing, a hobby which led him to introduce huge fish farms in his Azraq complex. Sharif Nasser was athletic. He enjoyed polo and, as a boxer, held the Armed Forces heavy weight boxing championship for three consecutive years. He received his military training with the British, Iraqi and Jordanian armies and, in the course of his training in desert navigation, served with the British "Lancer 16" division in North Africa.

March 23 (J.T.)—Sharif Nasser Ibn Jamil, King Hussein's maternal uncle, died this afternoon of a heart attack, the semite Court announced. He was 52, married by his sister, the Queen Mother, a former Hind Mango, and seven children. He was buried in the Royal Cemetery at noon tomorrow. Nasser held several important posts in the Jordanian army, including that of Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces. Born in 1927, he completed his education at Azameh School in Baghdad and secondary education, went to Freres Jerusalem. In 1949, he was appointed Assistant Chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces, in the rank of Major General. He held position until Jan. 7, 1967, when King Hussein appointed him Chief of Staff. On June 30, 1969, he was appointed



Khaddam predicts Sadat's fall

March 23 (R)—Syrian Minister Abdul Halim Khaddam predicted that the Egyptian peace treaty would be down to a fall of President Sadat. Speaking at a press conference at the end of his visit to Britain, he said that the treaty would suffer a "crisis" that would lead to the fall of the President. Khaddam said he was happy about his London talks with Labour Prime Minister James Callaghan and Conservative opposition leader Margaret Thatcher. They both wished to see a fair and comprehensive Middle East peace, he said. But Mr. Khaddam said that, in his view, conditions for this were not fulfilled by the proposed Egyptian-Israeli deal. Mr. Khaddam likened President Sadat's peace with Israel to the appeasement of Hitler by Britain.

tain's pre-war Prime Minister, Neville Chamberlain. He said that as the British people rid themselves of Mr. Chamberlain who brought them a worthless peace at the price of the Nazi occupation of Austria and Czechoslovakia, so would the Egyptian people rid themselves of President Sadat. The Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty was worthless because it "demolished the efforts of the international community to bring a just and comprehensive peace to the Middle East. The Syrian Foreign Minister added: "Where are the Palestinians, where is Syria, where is Jordan, where is the Soviet Union, where is the United Nations? None has participated and all oppose this treaty."



Israeli Premier Menachem Begin (left) and British Prime Minister James Callaghan during his stop at London's Heathrow Airport on his way to the U.S. Mr. Begin briefed the British Prime Minister and brought him up to date on the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty to be signed in Washington on Monday. (AP wirephoto)

Carter: U.S. ready to work with PLO

WASHINGTON, March 23 (R)—President Carter says that the United States will immediately begin working directly with the Palestine Liberation Organisation if it recognises Israel's right to exist and the need for a peace settlement. In an interview given to Egyptian Television yesterday and broadcast today, Mr. Carter said the United States wanted direct links with Palestinians during future negotiations to bring about full autonomy on the West Bank and Gaza. "The PLO has never yet been willing to accept the applicability of United Nations resolution 242, the basis for the Camp David agreement, and I think a document that has been adopted by all of the Arab nations as a foundation for future progress." The President said the PLO had never been willing to accept the document, which essentially calls for Israeli withdrawal from occupied lands in exchange for Arab recognition of Israel. "Also, the PLO has never recognised Israel's right to exist," Mr. Carter continued. "And as soon as the PLO itself as an organisation is willing to accept these bases, then we will immediately start working directly with that organisation as such." Mr. Carter also said the success of the talks on Palestinian self-rule, which are to begin in about a month following the signing on Monday of the Egypt-Israel peace treaty, "will depend to a substantial degree on the willingness of the Palestinians and others to participate in the negotiations themselves." Obviously (Egyptian) President Sadat and I (Israeli) Prime Minister Begin and our representatives can do a substantial amount for the Palestinians even in their absence," he said. "But the full realisation of their expectations under these terms would obviously be dependent on how willing they are to participate themselves," Mr. Carter said. He said no Middle East leader had done more to open the way for restoring Palestinian rights than Mr. Sadat. "If the other leaders do half as much as President Sadat has done, then these hopes that have been described in the agreements reached could be realised very quickly," he said. He forecast that Palestinians, Jordanians, Syrians and others would eventually be convinced of advantages of joining the Middle East peace process. The President said he presumed the talks on Palestinian self-rule would be held in the Middle East—possibly Al Arish, the Sinai administrative capital. He added that he wanted to visit the town and Mount Sinai after Egypt regained control.

Against 'predicted' Arab attacks Israeli armed forces placed on high alert

TEL AVIV, March 23, (Agencies)—Prime Minister Menachem Begin left for Washington today to sign Israel's peace treaty with Egypt, leaving the country's armed forces on high alert against predicted Arab attacks. Fears that Palestinian protests against the treaty could produce more violence seemed borne out when a bomb exploded in central Jerusalem, killing one person and wounding 14 and causing extensive damage, a few hours after Mr. Begin's plane took off. The explosion was in Zion Square where previous bombs planted by Palestinian commandos have killed several people. Police sources said the casualty toll today could have been far higher if the bomb had gone off earlier when the area was bustling with pre-Sabbath shoppers. Palestinians were given fresh cause for protest with the disclosure by Israeli officials of large-scale plans for Jewish settlement on occupied Arab land. Brushing aside United Nations criticism, the officials said four new settlements would be set up

very soon on the West Bank of Jordan. (See related story on this page) The settlement issue—together with the whole future of the West Bank and Gaza—seemed likely to provide the first major Mideast controversy after the peace treaty between Egypt and Israel is signed on Monday. In an airport statement before departure, Mr. Begin said: "I pray from the bottom of my heart that this peace treaty is the first step towards a comprehensive peace in the Middle East so that ultimately there will be peace with our Arab neighbours."

Also flying with Mr. Begin today was Energy Minister Yitzhak Moda'i. Together with Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan, who flew to Washington yesterday, the Israeli leaders still have what they described as "a few loose ends to tie up" before the treaty signing. These include the timing of Israel's withdrawal from oilfields in Sinai and questions about U.S. funding for Israel's defence relocation after quitting Egyptian territory. In London, British Prime Minister James Callaghan told Mr. Begin today that he saw the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty as a first and significant step towards a comprehensive Middle East settlement. The two men had a one-hour discussion at London airport during a brief stop there by Mr. Begin, on his way from Tel Aviv to Washington. A British spokesman said that Mr. Callaghan "emphasised the full support" of Britain for the peace treaty. The two leaders had a full and useful discussion of the steps which will be taken after the signature of the peace treaty towards the goal of achieving a comprehensive settlement, the spokesman said.

PLO claims responsibility for Tel Aviv blast

BEIRUT, March 23 (AP)—The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) claimed responsibility Friday for a bombing near a Tel Aviv taxi stand. A statement from the PLO's military command in Beirut said the explosion was part of a campaign to escalate commando activity to counter the expected signing of an Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty in Washington Monday. The PLO said 30 Israelis suffered injuries in the blast, but police in Tel Aviv said there were 15 casualties, one seriously wounded. The statement said the explosive was placed near a stand for taxis destined for occupied Jerusalem. It said it was planted by an Israeli-based commando unit, which "escaped an enemy cordon and returned safely to base." "This is just the beginning of a new campaign of escalated commando warfare against the enemy to protest the treasonous separate treaty with Egypt," the statement said.

Mystery grows around Sadat's travel plans

CAIRO, March 23 (R)—Egyptian President Anwar Sadat today completed preparations for his departure for Washington to sign a peace treaty with Israel formally ending 30 years of war. As he did so, mystery grew up around his travel plans. In Madrid, official Spanish sources said they had been told by the Egyptian embassy that for security reasons, President Sadat had cancelled plans to break his journey in the Spanish capital for a meeting with King Carlos. It was not known what alternative arrangements the Egyptian leader had made. The president is due to leave Egypt tomorrow and arrive in the United States on Sunday in time for the signing ceremony the following day with President Carter and Israeli Premier Menachem Begin.

Arab League foreign and finance ministers will meet in Baghdad on Tuesday, the day after President Sadat and Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin sign their pact on the White House lawn in Washington. Some Arab state will press in Baghdad for revoking Egypt's Arab League membership. Removal of the league's headquarters from Cairo and other forms of political and economic retaliation against Mr. Sadat. Tomorrow's meeting in Mogadishu is the league council's regular semi-annual meeting. Two Egyptian foreign ministers have resigned in the past few months. Neither specifically attacked Mr. Sadat's peacemaking with Israel, but both left the impression that they had differed with the President. In his last public statement on the treaty, President Sadat told reporters yesterday that the agreement made him optimistic. But he said many problems remained in the way of a comprehensive Middle East settlement. Arab critics have called the treaty a sell out and have branded him a traitor. In Baghdad, Iraq said today that the signing of a treaty with Israel would endanger peace and security in the Middle East. The Iraq News Agency (INA) quoted President Ahmed Hassan al-Bakr, in messages to foreign leaders, as saying conclusion of the pact conflicted with the will of the occupied Arab territories and the Palestinian people. "The signing will be an act against the will of the Arab countries as expressed by the last Arab summit meeting in Baghdad. It will also be against U.N. resolutions," he said.

Security Council condemns Israeli settlements, sets up three-member investigation committee

ATLANTA, March 23 (R)—The U.N. Security Council sharply criticised Israel's creation of settlements in occupied Arab territories and set up a three-member committee to investigate the problem. But Israel said it would not accept the council's resolution and would not permit any mission to enter the occupied territories. In the 15-nation council was 12 in favour of none against with none abstained—United States, Britain and Norway. The resolution requests the commission to report back by July 1, so that could reconvene to review the matter in the light of its findings. It, sponsored by Bangladesh, Kuwait, Nigeria and Zambia, originated an implied threat of sanctions against Israel. As a result of the resolution, this was removed along with some stronger language, enabling the U.S. to abstain instead of casting a veto. The resolution states that the commission is to "examine the situation in the occupied Arab territories since 1967, including this refers to the West Bank of Jordan, the Golan Heights and the Sinai, which was also occupied by Israel during the June 1967 war. It is to be returned to Egypt under the terms of their peace treaty signed in Washington on Monday. The Security Council resolution says that Israel's settlements in the occupied territories are "a serious obstruction to comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East." It calls for the U.S. to abstain from any action that would support Israel's expansionist policy. In a statement, the U.S. said it would not support the resolution and its refusal to receive the U.N. commission to examine the situation in the occupied territories was "a clear indication of its determination to pursue its aggressive policy, occupation of Arab land and obstruct any just and comprehensive peace in the region." The U.S. said it would not support the resolution and its refusal to receive the U.N. commission to examine the situation in the occupied territories was "a clear indication of its determination to pursue its aggressive policy, occupation of Arab land and obstruct any just and comprehensive peace in the region." The U.S. said it would not support the resolution and its refusal to receive the U.N. commission to examine the situation in the occupied territories was "a clear indication of its determination to pursue its aggressive policy, occupation of Arab land and obstruct any just and comprehensive peace in the region."

Cairo, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and "whichever country it chooses as its discretion, as well as U.S. citizens of Palestinian extraction who heretofore from those territories and whose lands have also been confiscated." Dr. Nuseibeh said that, to the Palestinians, it looked as though "the forces of evil have ganged up on them, in pursuance of their banishment." He stressed Jordan's abiding interest in "its twin brothers and sisters and kin in the Holy Land," and said no force on earth could undermine this "eternal commitment." Israel was not above the law and a "recalcitrant and consistently defiant member" that not given the right to continued U.N. membership. Zohdi Tami, U.N. Observer of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), said nobody except the "neo-fascists in Tel Aviv" had defended the practices of the Israeli forces of occupation. Not only the "perpetrators of the crimes" should be condemned but also "the accessories who supply them." The council's resolution was no consolation to the Palestinians since it avoided the real issue, the continued "illegal occupation," he said. As a Palestinian, he welcomed the commission to occupied Jerusalem and the other occupied territories. The Israeli leaders had already made clear that they would "negotiate until eternity" but would never give up the occupied territories. Mr. Terzi said he was glad the U.S. now agreed there could be no peace without a solution of the Palestine problem. Where they disagreed was on how that should be done. Israel announced that it would "not permit the proposed commission to enter the territories in question, and will not cooperate with it," in a press release issued after the vote. Israeli Representative Yehuda Blum was not so explicit in a statement he made in the council chamber, but did say that Israel rejected the resolution "in its entirety." He said Israel had had a "thoroughly disillusioning experience as the result of tendentious investigation of purportedly fact-finding commissions" established by the U.N. When findings were "not palatable to our detractors, they crushed those findings by using the steamroller based on their antithetical majority," he added. This was an apparent allusion to reports about conditions in the occupied territories carried out by the U.N. Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) and by the World Health Organisation (WHO) but never officially made public. "Also, the U.S. had grave doubts about the utility of setting up a commission to examine the situation of the settlements." "As we move beyond the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty into negotiations for a comprehensive peace, the parties joined by the U.S.—will be dealing

with the question of settlements as well as other issues involving the West Bank and Gaza and with the Palestinian problem in its various dimensions," Mr. Leonard said. British representative Peter Marshall said that if Israel's present settlement policy were continued, the peace process would be gravely jeopardised. Britain had reservations about dispatching a commission to the occupied territories even though, in principle, it supported the idea of sending fact-finding missions to troubled areas. Britain would prefer to see the Israeli government recognise the strength of feeling on the issue and to see all concerned strive to build on the progress already achieved before considering alternative approaches, he said. At the same time, Britain appealed to Israel to "desist now from any measures to increase its settlements, and to avoid jeopardising over the next few critical months the prospects for a comprehensive peace settlement" in which all countries and peoples could join, Mr. Marshall said.

Israel to set up new settlements

TEL AVIV, March 23 (R)—Israel will shortly set up four new settlements in the occupied West Bank of Jordan, Agriculture Ministry officials said today. The Agriculture Ministry is the government body responsible for establishing Israeli settlements. Officials told Reuters that along with the new settlements, the government also intended consolidating existing Israeli villages in the West Bank. These villages have been the centre of controversy since Israel captured the area in 1967. "Thousands of new houses will be added to settlements in the West Bank and along the Jordan Valley," one official said. The officials confirmed a television report last night which said increased settlement activity on the West Bank was promised by Prime Minister Menachem Begin to ministers of the National Religious Party to secure their support of the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty. Observers said establishment of new settlements on the West Bank would serve as another indication that Israel intended to remain indefinitely in control of the region. Prime Minister Begin assured the Knesset this week that the autonomy plan for the West Bank envisaged by the peace treaty would not weaken Israel's position in the controversial area. The ministry officials said that Agriculture Minister Ariel Sharon, an ardent supporter of Jewish settlement on the West Bank, believes scores of new outposts should be established on the West Bank to effectively protect Israel's centre.

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RSS solar projects purify water, heat and cool houses

Editor's note: This is the third in a series of four articles being published this month exploring the applications of solar energy in Jordan.

By Rami G. Khouri
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN, March 23--Aqaba and Jbeitha are not the kind of places that come to mind when one thinks of 20th century technological breakthroughs in harnessing the immense power of the sun, but they may have to be added to the global roster of solar energy research centres in view of several pioneering projects now being carried out there by the Royal Scientific Society.

As the RSS campus in Jbeitha, and at its experimental station for solar energy-powered desalination to sea water in Aqaba, the solar energy unit of the RSS is starting to get into high gear in its research programme, which includes three main projects. These are the solar-powered desalination unit at Aqaba, solar water heaters for home use, and (the latest programme) investigation of the use of solar energy for both home heating and cooling.

The RSS's home water heating research is its oldest programme in solar power applications, but it will be discussed in the last article in this series, which will look into commercial applications of solar home heating and hot water provision along with the RSS's work in this area.

Most dramatic of the RSS programmes is the desalination work being done at Aqaba. After a year

of testing an experimental station, the engineers at Aqaba have just moved into phase two of the research. This involves converting the desalination system into a two-stage process by the addition of a second condensation unit that has improved output of fresh water by over 50 per cent, according to RSS solar energy programme director Mohammad Qashou.

The technology being tested at Aqaba is the work of the West German company Dornier System, with whom the RSS is running the Aqaba experimental station as a joint venture.

The Aqaba programme is the first of its kind in the world to apply the principle of the heat pipe to desalination of water by using solar energy. The two-year experimental phase at Aqaba is designed to test and refine the equipment under severe operating conditions, such as using salty seawater. If the system works well under these conditions, Mr. Qashou told the Jordan Times, it will certainly work equally well in less trying conditions, such as sweetening brackish water in remote desert areas.

The system works on the principle that when sea water is heated sufficiently by passing through "heat pipes", that are heated to high temperatures by the sun, it will evaporate and then condense on a cooler surface to leave sweet, drinkable water. The RSS engineers at Aqaba and at the RSS's Jbeitha headquarters are constantly testing different kinds of materials that will provide optimum results. The condensers now being used are made of mixture of copper, nickel and chrome.

Aluminium pipes have also been tested at Aqaba.

The heat pipes themselves are made of aluminium, and can be manufactured in Jordan if the system is ever produced commercially here, for sale throughout the Middle East.

The RSS agreement with Dornier stipulates that each side will receive a certain share of the revenues if the system now being perfected goes into commercial production.

Mr. Qashou stresses that the aim of the programme is not research for its own sake, but achievement of an end use that will be of practical value to people in Jordan or the Middle East or the rest of the world, for that matter.

The system should produce four litres of fresh water per day per square metre of solar collecting surface, which level has nearly been reached at Aqaba. With the two-stage condensation process now being tried for the first time, output is expected to reach six litres per day.

Mr. Qashou says the system is best suited for small communities that do not have a source of freshwater but may be near sources of brackish water or seawater. With the great extent of coastal area throughout the Middle East, and the shortage of sufficient fresh water in this part of the world, the desalination system appears to have enormous potential in applications throughout the Middle East, but it will require until the end of this year to see what the final results of the experimental phase are.

The newest research effort of the RSS's solar energy unit is another two-year programme, being undertaken jointly with the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR), to investigate the potential application of solar power for heating and cooling purposes.

According to Malek Kabarti, who heads the Jordanian side of the work, the research will concentrate on home applications of solar heating and cooling. Most of the cooling work will be done by KISR, with the Jordanian side investigating heating possibilities, though some research on solar-powered cooling units will be undertaken in Aqaba and the Ghor area of the Jordan Valley.

A 90 square metre experimental house is now being built at the RSS campus outside Amman in which Mr. Kabarti will test the relative advantages of two kinds of solar-powered heating systems. One system uses circulating water as the heating vehicle, while the other uses hot air that is blown around through a system of ducts. "We want to test and compare the two systems to discover which is best for Jordan," Mr. Kabarti says, "so we can avoid importing and imposing use of a foreign-made system that may not be best suited for conditions here. Our overall aim is to design a system that is practical for the Middle East and that can also be manufactured locally at minimum cost."

The cooling systems that will be powered by the plentiful energy of the sun are of two kinds. The simpler one is known as a desert cooler, and is widely used in Iraq and parts of the southwest of the United States, where it is hot but dry. The desert cooler, which will be tested in Jordan on a limited scale, has a fan that blows air through a mesh of cloth material onto which water is dripped. The air blown through the mesh comes out into the room as humid air at a lower temperature than the room's air, because in passing through the moist mesh it has picked up the evaporating air inside the mesh that is cooler than the air inside the room.

The other system is more complex, and involves cooling entire homes or single rooms by using "absorbing cooling system". The RSS will test a lithium bromide water system in which lithium bromide acts as the absorber of water and heat. The system works on the following principle: water in which lithium bromide is dissolved is heated by the sun's energy to around 90° C, at which it evaporates and then condenses at high pressure. It is moved to a low pressure area where it evaporates again and in so doing it absorbs the room's heat. The vapour returns to be absorbed again by the lithium bromide which is reheated by the sun's energy to start the system moving around once again. A different variation of the same system uses ammonia instead of lithium bromide as the absorber.

The RSS Aqaba solar-powered desalination plant

The potential for the plentiful energy of the water or heat and cool Jordan is virtually endless. It is important to carry out research to establish the fact that a system tested here will be profitable throughout most of the Middle East, as commercial success is a low technical breakthrough.

The RSS itself, according to Qashou, does not plan to commercialize solar systems. When it has perfected, will look for a company to establish a manufacture with the RSS providing know and technical expertise. For companies would probably be on the basis of securing sales.

There are several solar energy projects planned at the RSS power, generation by cells, and thermal units that use solar steam to power generators. A small solar pump working at the RSS is also being adapted to sea water into the Aquanation unit.

Another project is taken with the University of Jordan, which is the investigation of solar greenhouse-based systems.

Can Europe step in?

WHATEVER our reservations about the present American efforts at Middle East peacemaking, there has long been general agreement among virtually all parties that the United States -- and, some would say, only the United States -- is in a position to play a mediatory role in trying to get a Middle East settlement.

The Camp David process and the resulting Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty -- will all the questions it leaves unanswered about the crucial issue of Palestinian national rights -- has revealed the sometimes alarming flaws in this thinking. All the goodwill at President Carter's disposal (leaving aside the strategic ambitions of some of his policy planners), and all the leverage the U.S. should be capable of exerting with the Israelis, have not been able to produce a plan acceptable to the majority of Arabs.

Is there, then, an alternative to the American role? Jordan is among the Arab states who, apart from pushing for a reconvening of the Geneva conference, have looked to the European Community in this connection. The countries of the Nine have long relationships with the Middle East -- diplomatic, political, economic and commercial -- which have grown steadily stronger. Britain and France once had mandated colonial responsibilities in the Near East; no one can ignore the potential incentive for Britain, particularly, to undo the injustices that were done in Palestine under its aegis.

That is history, however. Today's reality is that Britain, France, Germany and Italy particularly have established a dynamic partnership with the Arab World -- particularly in trade and oil matters. Not only that, the Europeans -- for the most part free of the Zionist constraints which influence American foreign policy -- have shown a commendable willingness to make their own good offices available in the interests of a just and permanent peace.

In a dispatch from Brussels the other day, Britain's Guardian newspaper reported that, "apart from the unsettling effect of the proposed treaty on Jordan and Saudi Arabia, some European diplomats are also wary about U.S. moves to involve Western Europe in indirectly underwriting the Egypt-Israeli agreement. There is a marked lack of enthusiasm in European capitals for suggestions that the EEC should contribute to a Marshall Plan type of financial support with the U.S. for Egypt and Israel after the signing of a peace treaty."

France and Germany are particularly insistent, the Guardian man writes, that an independent European line on the Middle East crisis is long overdue. The visits to Europe this week of Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Fahd and Syria's Foreign Minister Abdul-Halim Khaddam should be seen in this light.

The Euro-Arab dialogue -- one of the most important examples of the kind of role Europe can play -- has its next session in Paris in June. That would be as good a time as any to seek out a new, common approach aimed at defusing the time-bomb which the Washington treaty will implant in the Middle East.

WHAT'S GOING ON

Photo Exhibit

The French Cultural Centre is displaying a photo exhibit on "80 Years of French Cinema" during regular hours.

French Film

The French Cultural Centre presents a film by Valerian Borowczyk entitled "Blanche." The film starts at 7:30 p.m.

Lecture

The Goethe Institute presents a lecture by German engineer Mr. Ulrich Schafitzel entitled "Developing Countries and Developing Goals" at 1:00 p.m. at the Faculty of Engineering and Technology, Jordan University, room C 206.

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ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

UNDER THE HEADING "The Sacrifices Required", AL RA'I newspaper Friday calls on the Jordanian people to stand firmly united behind their leader His Majesty King Hussein in rejecting the "arm-twisting" policy exercised by Washington against us.

Jordanians everywhere should translate their support for their leader not into demonstrations, speeches and cables, but through exhibiting their unity and cohesion and through a willingness to offer whatever sacrifices are needed, the paper writes.

The King's statements published by American press announcing refusal to succumb to Washington's policy was welcomed by people in Jordan as well as those in the occupied Arab territories, because the King was expressing Jordan's stand and defending the rights of Arabs everywhere, the paper says.

Under the heading "March 26, 1979" AL DUSTOUR newspaper says "we are not surprised at the big fanfare and intense preparations for mass media coverage under way in Washington for the signing on Monday, March 26 of the separate Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty."

The occasion is certainly "unusual" and we can understand its significance for President Carter, since this gathering will be a unique opportunity for him, serving as a platform from which to rally Jewish votes for his re-election, the paper writes.

But, it adds: "The big event will definitely not open the door for peace in our region. It will only serve as a 'barter trade' at the expense of the Arab nation."

No one can ever forget Carter's first speech after his election in which he spoke about the rights of the Palestinians... something which "cooled down" gradually later on and was replaced by "the separate treaty" and the so-called "self-rule" for the Palestinians, the paper says. The 26th of March, the day for signing the treaty, should not draw an emotional response on the part of the Arab nation, since emotions are no more considered a weapon with which to face grave events, the paper adds.

GOOD news to the public on the occasion of the grand opening.

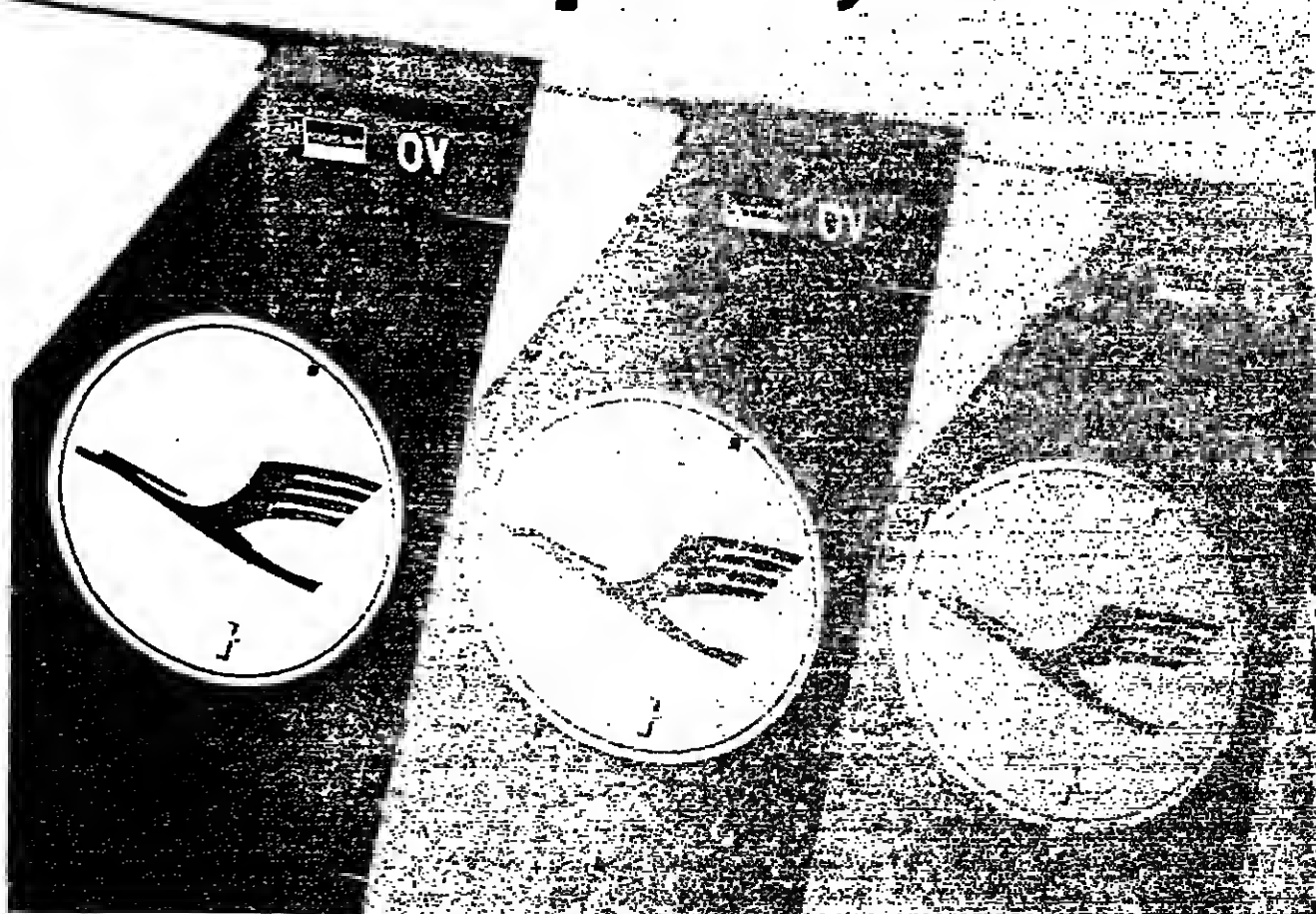
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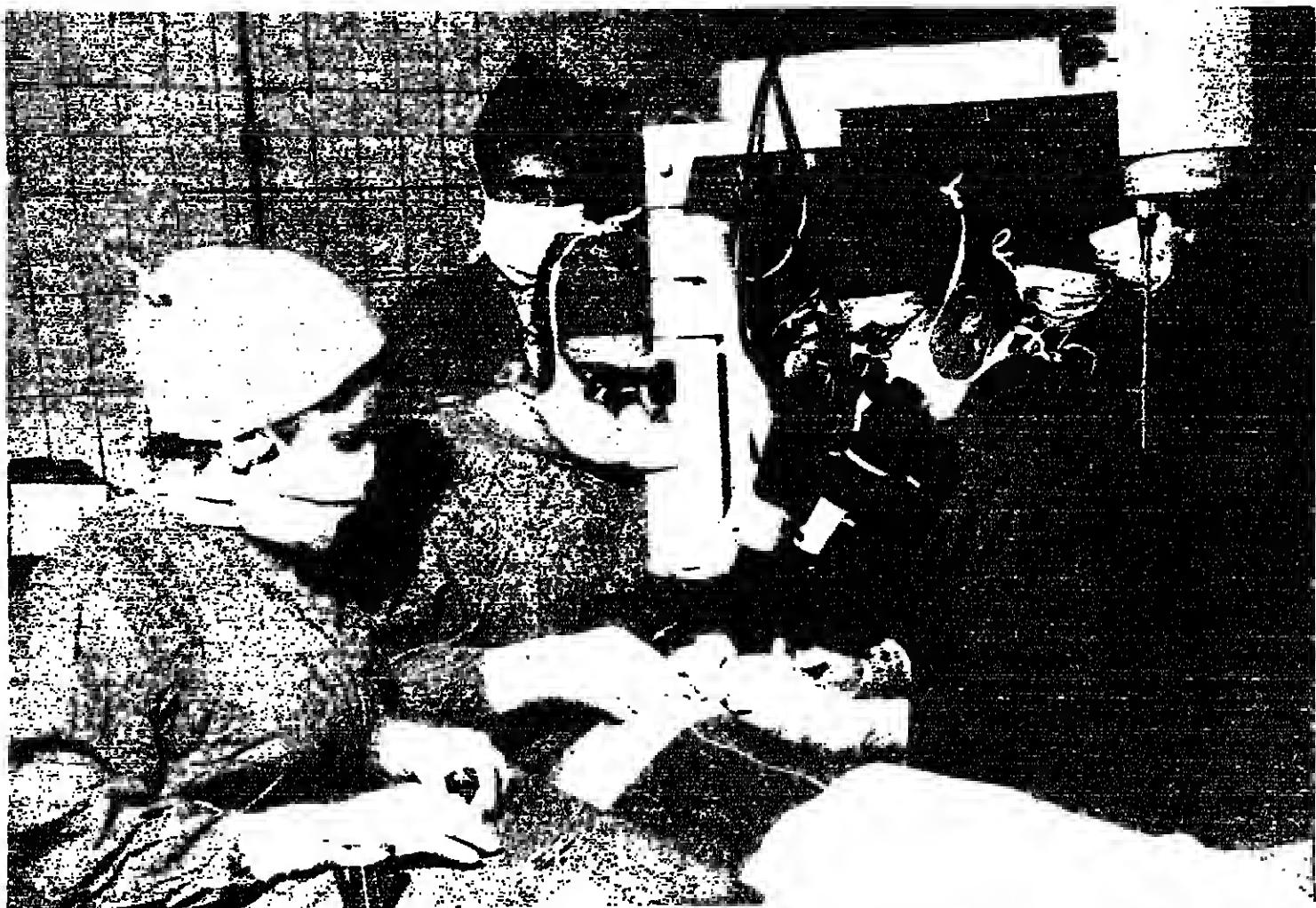
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Dr. Fuad Sayegh (left) and Dr. Richard Forster (right) perform corneal graft surgery under the microscope at the Jordan University Hospital.

When did the idea of setting up
an eye bank arise? What were the
steps taken?

"Well, the idea first arose over
22 years ago," Dr. Sayegh said.
"But it was only in 1965 that it was
activated by the Ministry of Health
when a four-member committee
was formed representing the Jordan
University Hospital, the King Hussein
Medical Centre, the Ministry of Health
and the private sector. These four
members worked out the pre-
requirements and formulated
recommendations for setting up
an eye bank. A new law was
passed. Then, with the coop-
eration of the International Eye
Foundation (IEF), a programme
for the Jordan Eye Bank was set
up. The first step was finally taken
in November last year when a Jordan-
ian team was sent to the
United States to study the exam-
ple of US eye banks and to
observe tissue technology.

"The second step was to open
the JEB officially. This took place
on March 10 this year." Present at
the ceremony were a surgical team
from the United States: Dr.
Richard Forster from Bascom
Palmer in Miami and Dr. Michael
Lemp from the Georgetown Uni-
versity Hospital, the Adminis-
trative Director of the IEF, Mr.
Joseph Deering, and ophthalmic
and eye bank technicians Miss
Victoria Sheffield and Miss Nicole
Todaro. Also present were two
ophthalmic surgeons from Syria,
Dr. Sa'id, who is working part-
time at the Ministry of Health

Hospital in Damascus and part-
time private practitioner, and Dr.
Samman from the Damascus Uni-
versity Hospital.

Miss Todaro, a young lady who
looks and sounds American but
who turned out to be French,
spoke to the Jordan Times about
the reason for their presence and
the activities of the IEF.

"We are here to help start the
Jordan Eye Bank. Vicky and I
came one week before the doctors
to set up the operating theatres, to
show the nurses how to scrub, and
so on. The doctors are here to
supervise the local doctors in their
first corneal graft surgeries. They
started operating right away and
have already performed 38
operations--at the Jordan Uni-
versity Hospital and the King
Hussein Medical Centre."

When asked about the facilities
she found here, Nicole said: "I
found extremely good facilities in
Jordan, in both hospitals (JUH
and KHMC); they are very well
equipped. The staff is very
cooperative and knowledgeable.
Their attitude is really positive."

Victoria, who took a break in
the middle of a corneal graft
surgery to talk with the Jordan
Times, said: "You can tell about
the nurses both here and in the
KHMC. They are really sharp and
smart. They learned so fast. As
you see, I can leave the theatre
and they carry on quite well.
When we leave, I am sure they'll
be able to handle every thing effi-
ciently."

The IEF team left last Sunday,

leaving only Nicole to train eye
bank technicians.

She was trained
at Georgetown University Hospi-
tal as an ophthalmic technician.
She does almost everything from
eye screening through teaching up
to working in a theatre. She is the
assistant director of the para-
medical training programme of
the IEF.

"I am going to stay two or three
more weeks," long-haired Nicole
went on warmly, "to train eye
bank technicians to collect, store
and preserve the eyes or the cor-
neas prior to transplantation."

She also explained to the Jordan
Times the nature and function of
the IEF. "The IEF is a private vol-
untary organisation head-
quartered in Washington D.C. Its
director, John Henry King, was
unfortunately unable to join the
team and come to Jordan due to
health reasons.

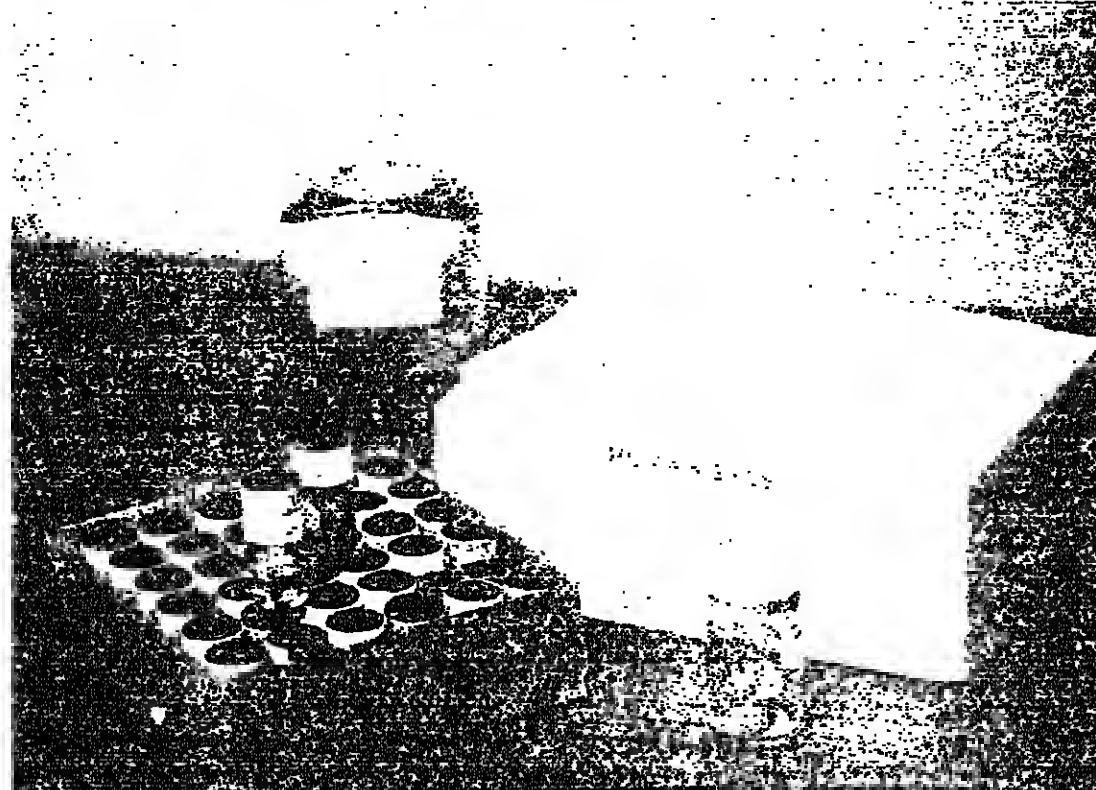
"The organisation is geared to
do different things: train para-
medical personnel and develop
eye care networks, especially in
developing countries. One major
programme under way at the time
being is in Kenya. It involves train-
ing ophthalmic assistants, or oph-
thalmic medical officers as they
are called. These would replace
ophthalmologists in very remote
areas of the country since special-
ists are very few. The goal is for
the trainees to be able to diagnose
and cure the simpler eye diseases
and refer the others to oph-
thalmologists. In other words, to
have different levels of medical
eye care."

Here in Jordan, the IEF has
provided two sets of instruments
and preliminary eye bank material
to the JEB as well as Nicole's ser-
vices. In the future, it is hoped that
the IEF will be able to expand its
activities to training paramedical

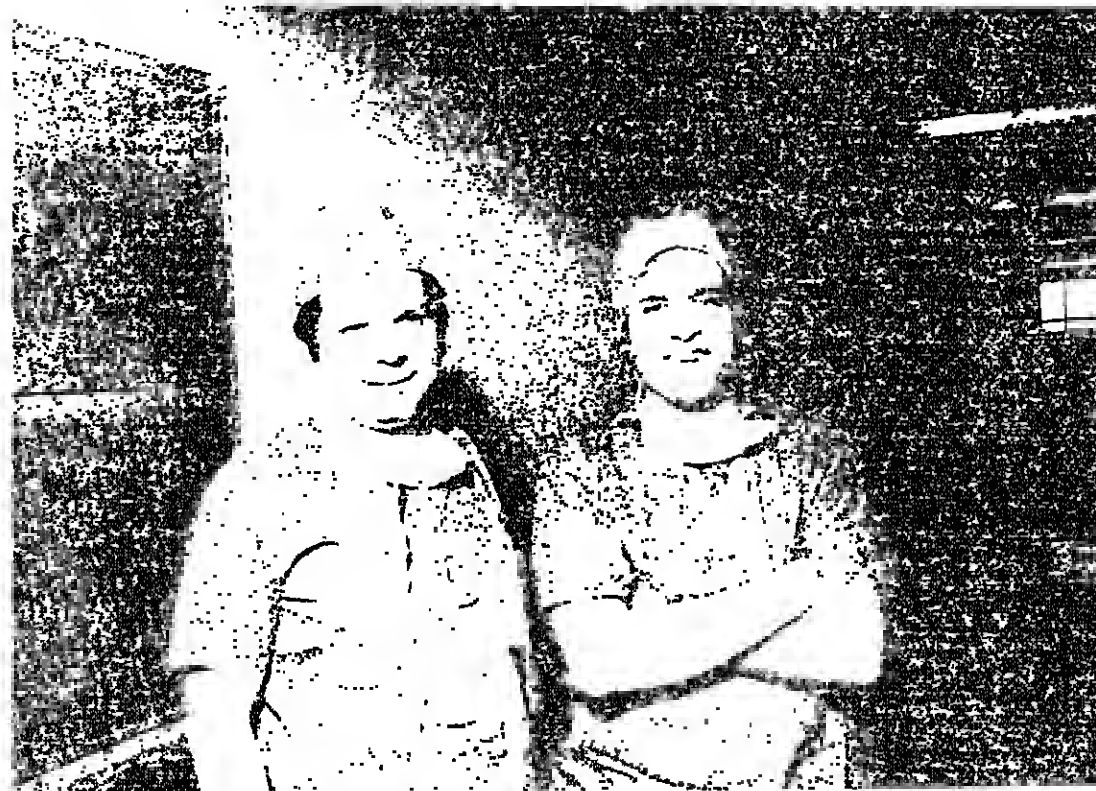
health workers in eye care in Jordan.

Are there other eye banks in the
Middle East? "Yes, there is one in
Iraq" was the spontaneous answer
which popped up from Dr. Sura
Sabe' Al Aish, an Iraqi oph-
thalmologist at the JUH.
"Really?" asked the other doctors
present. "So," Dr. Sayegh said,
"there are two other eye banks:
one in Egypt and one in Iraq.
There is also one at St John's in
Jerusalem, but it uses only foreign
tissues."

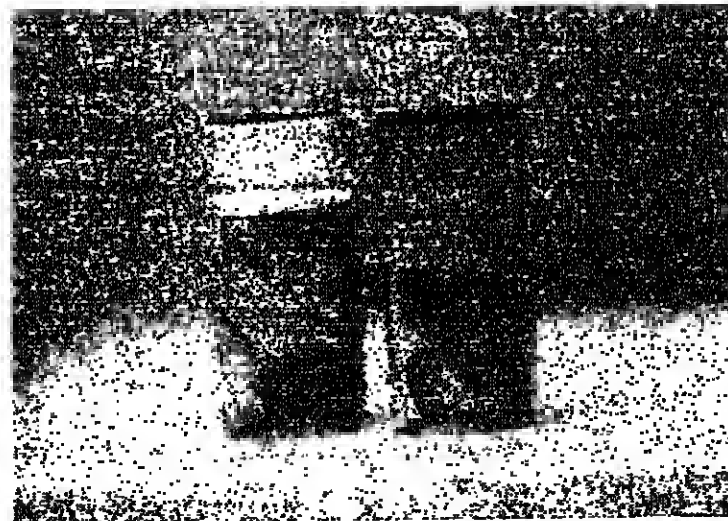
Dr. Sayegh's reaction to the
opening of the JEB was: "It was
very encouraging. Directly after
the opening ceremony more than
50 people donated their eyes!"
Dr. Sabe' Al Aish added: "We'll
distribute donation cards to hos-
pitals and centres and get more
donations." "By the way," she
said, handing me a donation card,
"would you like to donate your
eyes?"



An empty container is awaiting a freshly enucleated eye (right) beside a box of preserved corneas (left) and a bottle of glycerine.



Dr. Sa'id (left) and Dr. Samman (right) came from Syria to watch the events. Although there is no eye bank in Syria, corneal graft surgery is performed using foreign tissues.



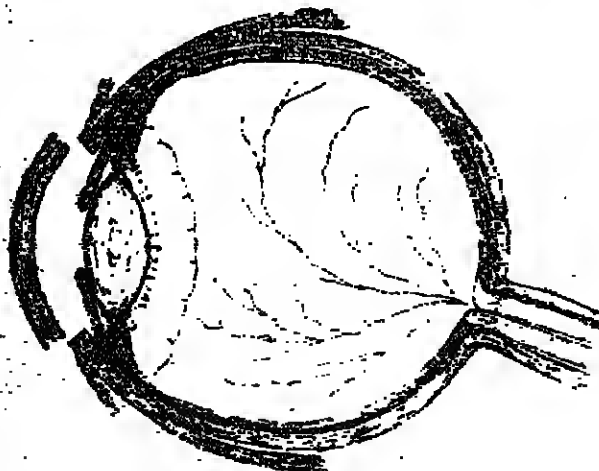
Preserved human corneas with a scleral ring around them recently shipped from the United States.



Miss Victoria Sheffield works with an instrument set donated by the IEF to the Jordan Eye Bank.

CROSS SECTION DRAWING OF AN EYE

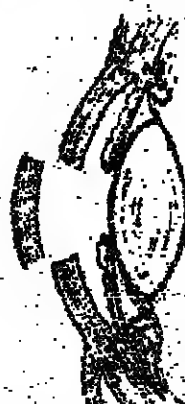
INDICATING COMPARATIVE SIZE AND
SHAPE OF THE CORNEA (SUPERIMPOSED)



Surgical Methods of Cutting
Cornea for Transplant Purposes:



COMPARATIVE VIEW
OF PARTIAL
PENETRATION AND
REPLACEMENT OF A
PORTION OF THE
CORNEA TISSUE
FROM DONOR EYE



COMPARATIVE VIEW
OF FULL THICKNESS
PENETRATION AND
REPLACEMENT OF
CORNEA TISSUE
FROM DONOR EYE

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Eye Foundation is providing the first corneas needed to start off the Jordan Eye Bank.



A view of Irbid from the roof of the municipal building. Surrounded by fertile lands, the area has been inhabited from earliest times. Most of these buildings were built in the last 25 years. The mosque in the centre is Al Jamieh Sharqi, the East.

Irbid: Jordan's second city mixes problems with hope

Text and photos
by Marianne Pearson
Special to the Jordan Times

IRBID—Is Irbid Jordan's second city—or is it number three?

Dr. Sufyan Tell of the Irbid Urban Regional Planning Group favours the former interpretation of statistics. "Zarqa," he said, "is not a distinctive city." Irbid, as the capital of Jordan's largest governorate with 30 per cent of the country's agricultural land, is distinctive. Its history stretches back to the Bronze Age.

Its name probably comes from the one it had in Roman times—Arbela. It wasn't one of the original Decapolis cities, but was a latecomer to that ancient league. In modern times, under Ottoman rule, caravanserai was built on its tell and the population is estimated to have been about 800. Population has been increasing in geometric proportions ever since. Before 1948 it was on a busy trade route that ran from Baghdad to Haifa.

In 1967 Irbid suffered devastation and a large death toll under rocket fire from the Golan Heights. Its population was then about 65,000, although it is ill-equipped to do so, it has been receiving the dispossessed of the West Bank until today. Villagers of the area, looking for new opportunities, are also drawn to it. The population today is over 140,000.

"The use of basalt as a building stone certainly adds no touch of beauty to the scene," wrote Gerald Lankaster Harding in *Antiquities of Jordan*. Today, these older buildings no longer exist and limestone is dominant. Dr. Tell, a native of Irbid, says he remembers buildings as being "mixed" when he was a child. He would like to incorporate some basalt trim in the house he is building in Irbid.

Irbid has three major problems today: water, housing, and money—a lack of all of them.

A good city water supply Dr. Tell said, would provide 200 litres of water daily to each inhabitant: Irbid's is 17 litres. The city receives 4,000 or 5,000 cubic metres of water a day from sources in Azraq, Smeih, and Edleil. Sources closer to the city deliver approximately 1,000 additional cubic metres a day. Water is rationed: each section of the city receives water only twice a week. The Maqarin Dam, it is hoped, will help to solve the problem, and in the meantime new artesian wells are being drilled to ease the situation.

City planning is easier on paper than in practice in Irbid. Land is expensive and builders tend to disregard city ordinances requiring space to be left around new buildings. The shortage of housing is critical. In addition to its large Palestinian population and newcomers from the rural areas, the city's natural growth rate is high. University of Yarmouk personnel needed a new 100-unit housing development originally intended for townspeople. The large staff required for the building of the Maqarin Dam will need housing that has yet to be prepared.

Dr. Tell believes people from Irbid will be forced to move to Amman if more housing is not available to them. The city needs housing projects commensurate with its growth.

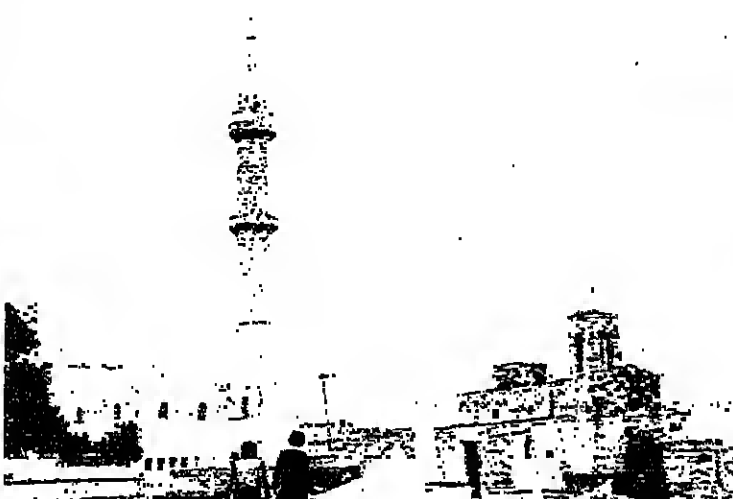
Japan International Cooperative Agency, at the request of the government of Jordan, has drawn up a comprehensive plan for northern Jordan. Its regional planners have suggested numerous improvements to Irbid, including improvement of traffic patterns, recreational facilities, water supply and the industrial estate. Its plans are to be implemented during 1981-85 at a cost of JD 247

million—which brings us back to problem number three.

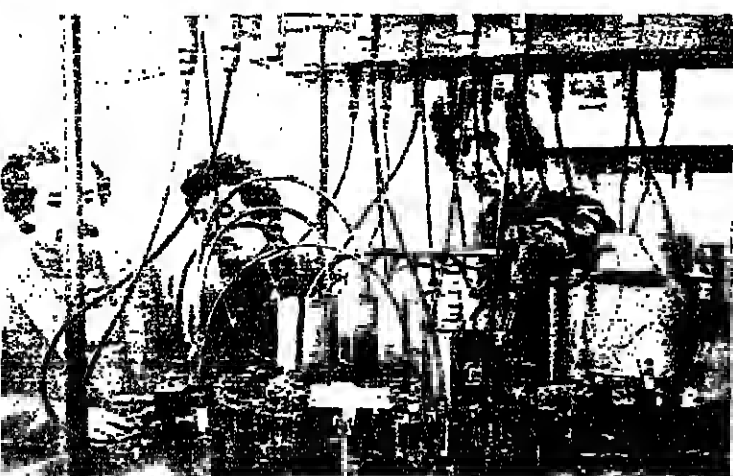
After considering Irbid's problems, Dr. Tell brightened and said enthusiastically: "The potential in the north for tourism is great—particularly for tourists interested in archaeology and ancient times. They can stay in Irbid for a week and every day take trips to see new things. For example, Beir Ras, which is old Capitolias. It has an underground channel going all around the city which is so big cars can drive in it. Um Qais is another old city

nearby. Its name was Gadara and the poet Meleager was born there. Perhaps it was like Jerash, perhaps better—it had a university.

"The hot springs at Hamma near the Yarmouk River have a temperature of 45 degrees centigrade. This is a good recreation area. Yesterday I discovered, myself, north of Irbid a large network of underground channels—people in Roman times got water there. There are many things like this. If we have the capital to restore them, we will be one of the most important areas in the world for tourists."



On Dahr Al-Tell ("ceiling of the hill") are a mosque, a church, a complex of schools, the police headquarters and the old jail. On its northern slope part of the basalt stone wall which surrounded the Bronze Age city can be seen. The highest point in Irbid, the tell covers numerous other settlements dating back to 2500 B.C.



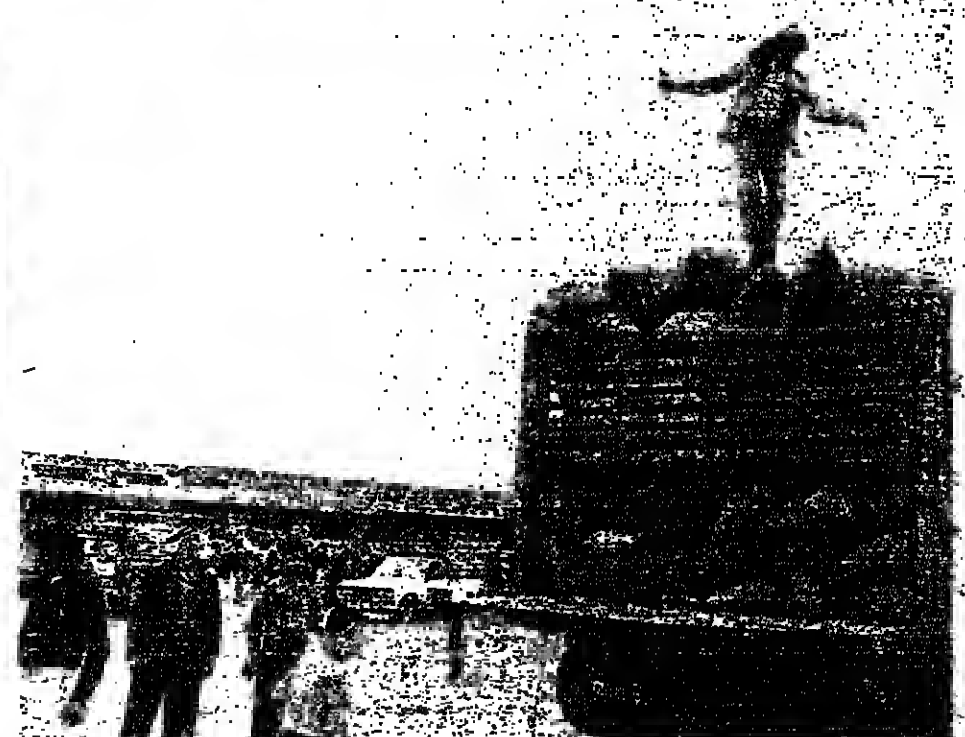
An automated ball-point pen factory is already in operation in Irbid's new industrial area.



Irbid was the first city in Jordan to establish a public library. The librarian, Mr. Anwar Ishaq, is preparing an exhibition of children's books for the International Year of the Child. A new children's library is under construction at a playground in the city, and a new central library for the people of Irbid will be built on land near the temporary Yarmouk University site.



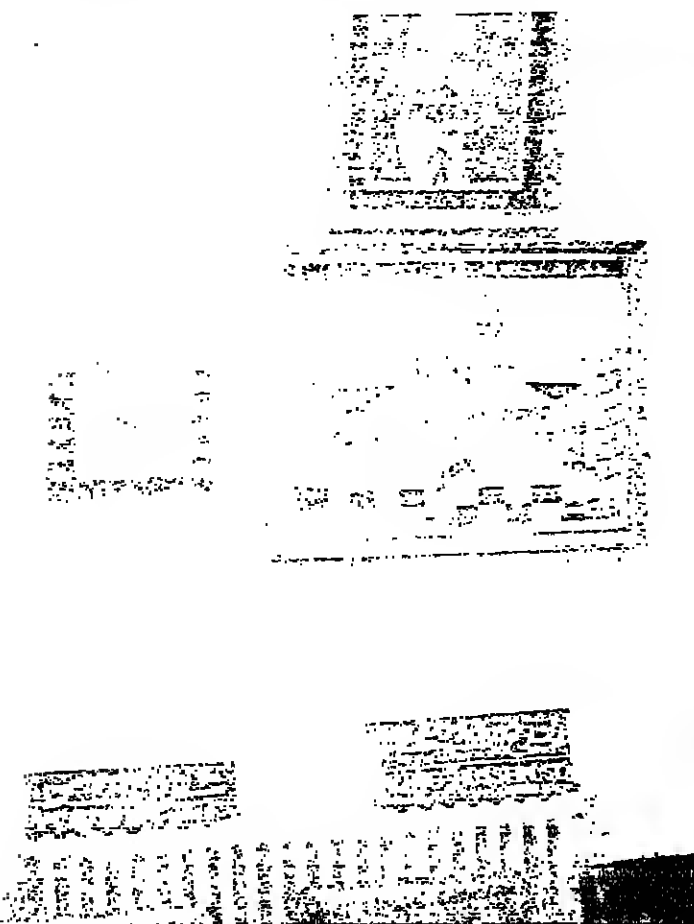
The mayor of Irbid, Mr. Hassan Momeni, sits before a map of the city in his office, drawn three years ago, new areas have developed beyond its borders.



At the Central Market, on the western edge of Irbid, produce from the Jordan Valley for distribution to retail merchants. Activity is greatest early in the morning. It has by noon, when this picture was taken.



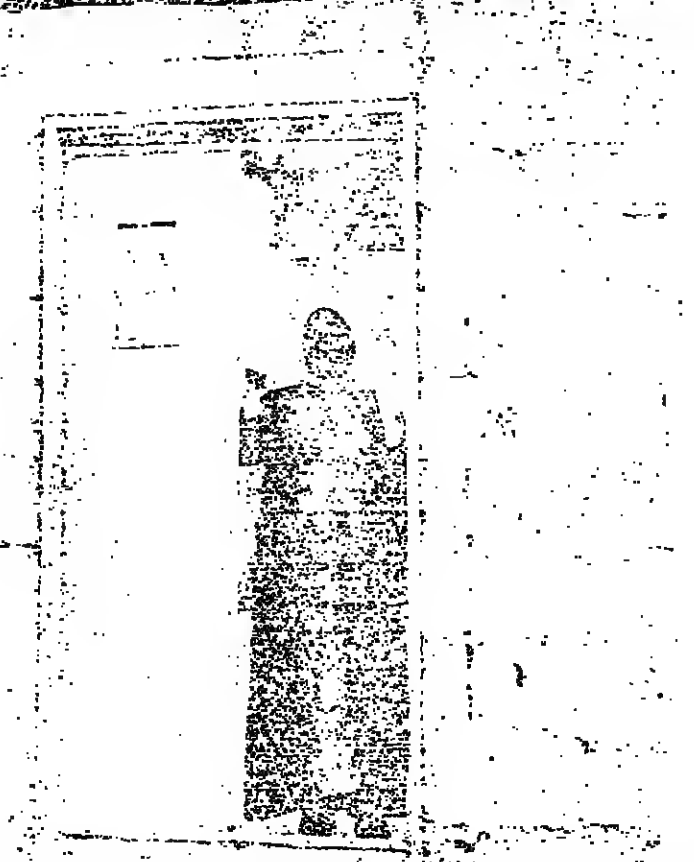
A farmer brings his tractor to Irbid's industrial area on the northern edge of the city. Most of the city's garages are now concentrated there. Metal-working shops, carpenter and factories will also be moved there. Over 100 shops have already been built and over 300 when the industrial area is completed.



In the mayor's office are samples of new street signs. A committee from the city has chosen 500 national and historical names for Irbid streets. Major streets will have signs in English also. After the signs with names are installed, the next step will be the numbering of streets and houses.



Mr. Hikmat Ta'ani, curator of the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities' Irbid museum, holds a bowl from the Bronze Age. Artifacts in the museum from archaeological sites in Irbid district date from the Neolithic Age to the Islamic period. Mr. Ta'ani, who has a staff of seven assistants, has recently worked on the excavations at Pella.



A Palestinian woman stands in the doorway of her shelter at the refugee camp adjacent to Irbid. It is one of the oldest camps in Jordan, established in 1948. Many other refugees live outside the camp in the city.

Damas-Scene

Compiled for the Jordan Times by Pat McDonnell

(Week of March 24 - 30)

COLUMN marks the first anniversary of the Damas-Scene. It is hoped that readers will contribute to the longev- ity of this weekly round-up of cultural and civic events by sending parties, benefits, exhibitions, concerts and lectures to Pat McDonnell, P.O. Box 5601, Damascus, Syria.

EXHIBITS

DAY, March 24: Thirty-one graphics of Aleppo artist go on display for six days in the Arab Cultural Centre. A reception opens the one-man show. Mr. Taha is a 1978 graduate of the Fine Arts Academy of Damascus University. 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. daily

DAY, March 24: More than 70 artists of Syria and Iraq represented in a mixed media exhibition at Al Sha'h. A 6 p.m. reception opens the 10-day show. Hours: 10:30 p.m.; 4:30 - 8 p.m. daily except Friday.

AY, March 26: Large colour photographs of 47 priceless manuscripts from Spain's Royal Library of Escorial will go on display for one week in the Exhibition Hall of the Damascus National Museum. A 6 p.m. reception will open the event under sponsorship of the Syrian Ministry of Culture and the Spanish Embassy.

Ambassador Fernandez-Shaw further explained that Escorial is some 50 kilometres from Madrid. King Philip II ordered a royal monastery and library at Escorial which also is a site of Spanish royalty. Arabic documents at Escorial include grammar, poetry, philology and literature, philosophy, physics, history, politics, medicine, natural sciences, mathematics and theology.

Particular interest to Damascenes will be No. 43 in the series, a 61-page treatise describing the Syrians, written by Ahmad Ibrahim al-Dimasqi in 1327 A.D. Another object of interest is an illustrated Koran written in the Maghreb script of the 11th century in 1106 A.D. Hours: 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.; 2 - 4 p.m. except Tuesdays.

ESDAY, March 28, and THURSDAY, March 29: A 3 M exhibition featuring microfiche systems, telephone machines, and visual products will be open to the public from 9:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. both days in the Grand Ballroom of the Sheraton.

CONCERTS

ESDAY, March 28: West German musicians Detlev Grevesmuhl, violinist, and Ulrich Meckies, pianist, will perform at 8 p.m. in the concert hall of the Damascus National Museum. They will perform the works of Handel, Stravinsky, Mozart and Schubert.

DAY, March 29: Russian music teachers who are instructing students in Aleppo will perform a guest concert at 7 p.m. in the Music School of the Soviet Cultural Centre.

LECTURES

AY, March 26: Tishrin journalist Ali Abdul Karim will give a lecture at 6 p.m. in the Arab Cultural Centre (in Arabic). **AY, March 27:** "The Historical Development of Urban Planning" is the title of a lecture to be given by Dr. Ulrich Meckies at 5 p.m. in the Faculty of Engineering, Damascus University. Prof. Schaffitzel has worked as the adviser for town planning in Tunisia and as a consultant in North African countries for the Goethe Institute (in English).

AY, March 27: "Searching for the Content of Music" is the title of a music conference to be led by Mohammad Hanaou, director at the Damascus Institute of Music, at 6:30 p.m. in the Arab Cultural Centre (in Arabic).

ESDAY, March 28: "The Urban-Phenomenon of Squatter Settlements and Their Integration into Town Planning" will be the topic of West German urbanist Ulrich Schaffitzel at 5 p.m. in the Faculty of Engineering, Damascus University (in English).

THEATRE

RDAY, March 24: The National Theatre of Syria will present a re-run of "The King is King" nightly at 8:30 p.m. in Al Sha'h Theatre. Zinat Kousia is cast in the leading role of the play based on "The Prince and the Pauper". The performances are in honour of International Theatre Day, March 27 (in Arabic).

VIDEO-TAPED PROGRAMME

WEDNESDAY, March 28: "Les Musiques de Marcel Proust" will be presented at 6:30 p.m. in the French Cultural Centre (in French).

AY, March 30: A documentary entitled "Temoignages et souvenirs d'Aragon" is slated for 6:30 p.m. in the French Cultural Centre (in French).

DANCE RECITAL

WEDNESDAY, March 28: "An Evening of Indian Classical Dance" will be presented at 8:30 p.m. in the New Officers Club at the Meridien Hotel to benefit the SOS Orphanage at Qod. The programme is being produced by Mme. Shrimati Usha Venkateswaran, wife of India's Ambassador to Syria. Although she has danced in India, this will be her first full-length solo performance in Syria.

Classical Indian dancing should not be regarded as folk dance or acrobatics," she said, "it involves everything from invocations to the dieties to re-enactments of life's sorrows and joys, be they separations, weddings, or mourning for a lost one. It is to introduce the audience to the intricacies of Indian dancing with a demonstration of the basic movements, postures, gestures and facial expressions."

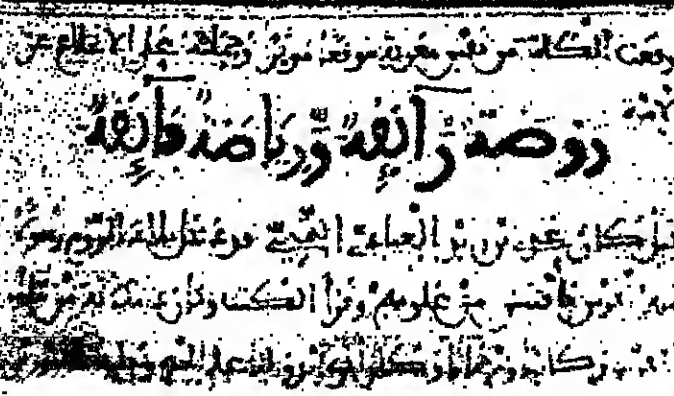
The wedding ceremony will be enacted replicating Hindu nuptials and the arrival of the bridegroom to the bride. Another selection will be the Kathak, a popular dance of the Moghul period.

Mme. Venkateswaran previously participated in an international programme at the Azzem Palace last April which presented dances of France, Indonesia, Argentina, Russia and India. She also gave children's programme at the Martyrs' School for Children's day, Nov. 14, which coincides with the birthday of Pandit Nehru.

Dancing is merely one facet of her accomplishments, she holds a degree in dietetics from the University of Madras and a diploma in nutrition in Madras and Delhi. She also is a pianist, has her own kitchen and turns out extremely feasting and floral arrangements that are contemporary in theme. The benefit performance is Mme. Venkateswaran's personal contribution to the Year of the Child and all proceeds will go to SOS orphanage, under construction eight kilometres west of Damascus.



West German violinist Detlev Grevesmuhl will perform in concert with pianist Ulrich Meckies at 8:30 p.m. Wednesday in the Damascus National Museum and at 8 p.m. Thursday in the Aleppo National Library.



An example of the photos of Arabic manuscripts from the Royal Library of Escorial, Spain, which goes on view Monday in the National Museum of Damascus. This is one of 47 miniatures painted by a 16th century Moor depicting the amusement of women in the harem of Caliph Ali Ben Abi El-Tamim. The miniatures were painted long after the text was written by Mohammad Ali Zafar who died in 1169 A.D.

ELSEWHERE IN SYRIA

THURSDAY, March 29: West German musicians Detlev Grevesmuhl, violinist, and Ulrich Meckies, pianist, will perform the works of Handel, Stravinsky, Mozart and Schubert at 8 p.m. in the National Library of Aleppo.

FILMS

SATURDAY, March 24, and MONDAY, March 26: The film, "La Meilleure Façon de Marcher," directed by Claude Miller starring Patrick Dewaere, Patrick Bouchitey and Christine Pascal, will be shown at 7:30 p.m. in the French Cultural Centre (in French, Arabic sub-titles).

SUNDAY, March 25: "Tecomseh," a western adventure film, will be shown at 6:30 p.m. in the German Democratic Republic Cultural Centre (in German, Arabic sub-titles).

MONDAY, March 26: A film honoring International Day of Theatre will be shown in the Soviet Cultural Centre, under the title, "A Mythological Story of Kalfbac," (in Russian, Arabic sub-titles).

WEDNESDAY, March 28: "Hated" is the title of a film to be shown at 6 p.m. in the Soviet Cultural Centre (in Russian, Arabic sub-titles).

THURSDAY, March 29: The American Women's Club will sponsor a fund-raising showing of "A Man for all Seasons" at 8 p.m. in the Damascus Community School. Please phone the school for confirmation of the showing.

THURSDAY, March 29: The French Cultural Centre will launch a festival of films by the late Jean Renoir beginning with Renoir's 1931 classic, "La Chienne," starring Michel Simon and Janie Mareze, at 7:30 p.m. (in French, Arabic sub-titles).

FRIDAY, March 30: "Trimbiera" is the title of a film to be shown at 6 p.m. in the Soviet Cultural Centre (in Russian only).

PAT-POURRI

Most diplomatic gatherings have an international flair to them, but the Mezze home of West German Defence Attache Joergen von Plunskow and his wife, Ann, was a veritable mini-United Nations on Friday when they showed two German TV colour documentaries about Syria.

At the last minute, the host had to leave on business to Jeddah, but the hostess, who resembles Swedish screen actress Liv Ullmann, ably entertained with the assistance of her daughter Emily. Manning the film projector in the absence of the host was Siegfried Glossner.

The films, which were made under the patronage of the Syrian Department of Antiquities, were top notch and it's a shame the narration isn't dubbed in English for consumption in the United States. Both were directed by German art historian Irene Zander.

"Damascus, Impression of a City," depicts old homes within the walls of the old city, the handicrafts, festivals and life styles of Damascenes which probably will disappear within a decade. The

second film, "Usama Ibn Munqidz, Knight of the Prophet," is a historical travelogue of the mediaeval fortresses on the Mediterranean coast of Syria.

The international roster of film viewers included Col. Laszlo Kiko of Hungary, Chao Ching-min and Chen Po-Sun of the Chinese Embassy, Roy Pinborough of the British Embassy and Sevdia and Col. Turqut Nasun of the Turkish Embassy. Rita Khoudari, the owner of Interdecor, and her husband, Nader, were glimpsed chatting with Helmut and Hildegard Carl of West Germany.

The business community was represented by Nobuo Masuyama of Nichimen Co., a Japanese exporter of textiles, tyres and Daihatsu autos, and British oilman Andrew Botterill. Col. Marin Soreseu and his wife, Livia, of Romania were involved in conversation with Dr. Kassem Tawfiq of the Syrian Department of Museums and Antiquities, who gave a brief summary of both films in English.

W. Germany signs railway aid agreement with Jordan

FRANKFURT, March 23, (R)—West Germany and Jordan today signed an agreement on the maintenance and upgrading of the Aqaba Railway Corporation linking the phosphate mines at Al Hasa with the port of Aqaba.

The German government-owned development aid society for technical cooperation (GTZ) said the contract was signed during a visit of Jordan's Transport Minister Ali Suhaimat to West Germany.

Under it, the GTZ will send six railway experts to Jordan for 15 months to instruct the local railway company on questions of maintenance of the railway line. The contract is worth 1.5 million marks (\$ 790,000).

The line, completed in 1972, was originally built with West German aid money at a cost of 150 million marks and the project is the largest W. German aid venture in Jordan. The six experts to go to Jordan under the agreement will help the four already working on the railway to ready the line for the addition of 210 new wagons later this year.

The GTZ and Jordan began to cooperate on the project four years ago. Phosphate exports account for 30 per cent of Jordan's export earnings.

Mr. Suhaimat is scheduled to meet West German Transport Minister Kurt Gscheidele in Bonn next Monday.

Gen. Ibn Shaker returns from France

AMMAN, March 23 (JNA)—Commander in Chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces Lt. Gen. Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker returned here today at the end of an official two-week visit to France.

Gen. Ibn Shaker who was accompanied by a military delegation held talks with the French Defence Minister Yvon Bourges and other officials, and toured military installations and arms factories.

TODAY'S WEATHER

The weather will be partly cloudy in general with a chance of local rain in the east part of the country. There will be a decrease in temperatures and winds will become westerly moderate. In Aqaba it will be partly cloudy and dusty and winds will be northerly moderate to fresh with calm seas.

	Overnight	Daytime
Amman	14	20
Aqaba	15	30
Deserts	13	21
Jordan Valley	16	27

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OOH LA LA STARTING Friday 23.3

Holmes favoured over Ocasio for WBC title
LAS VEGAS, Nevada, March 23. (R) — When Ocasio steps into the ring tonight to fight Larry Holmes for the World Boxing Council (WBC) heavyweight title most people see his role as that of a sacrificial lamb. Holmes wanted to make money without incurring undue risk, and Ocasio was selected as a proper foil, many boxing pundits say. But Ocasio, 23 and winner of all 13 of his professional fights, doesn't see it that way. "I'm going to knock out Larry Holmes, the Puerto Rican challenger repeats in broken English. It's nothing new to me to be an underdog. I've been one for almost all my fights."

He got the chance to fight Holmes on the strength of two points victories over Jimmy Young, once a highly-ranked heavyweight. His first 11 bouts were all against nondescript opponents, and he stopped all but one of them. Promoter Don King, who is staging the match at the Hilton Hotel Sports Pavilion, is paying purses of \$1.2 million to Holmes and \$250,000 to Ocasio. Holmes lost several fights as an amateur, but his professional record is perfect. "I'm 29 years old with 29 wins and 20 knockouts," he said. "I was improved with Ocasio against Young. He's a hungry young fighter who will give it everything he has. I have to be ready."

Belgian optimistic about world cross-country title

LIMERICK, Republic of Ireland, March 23 (R) — Belgian runner Leon Schots chases his second triumph in eight days when he tackles the world cross-country championships here on Sunday. Schots, a gritty 26-year-old soldier who thrives in the mud and chill of cross-country running, retained his world military title last Saturday in Cork, only an hour's drive from Limerick. But that victory was, he believes, only a stepping stone on his way to regaining the world championship he won in Dusseldorf, West Germany, two years ago. "I don't believe there will be anyone here who can stop me winning the title," he said this week after a leisurely inspection of the horse-shoe-shaped course at Limerick's Greenpark horse racing track. The hard-running Belgians could also start favourites to regain the men's senior team title in a 12 kilometre race. The overall entry for the men's, women's and junior events is about 450 competitors, with many countries eager to take advantage of the new rule which allows individual well as team entries.

Though Schots will start favourite for the men's title he will need to keep a wary eye on at least half a dozen rivals, including

Irishman John Treacy, who will be particularly keen to succeed on his home ground after last year's surprise win in Scotland. A powerful squad from the Soviet Union will include last year's runner-up Alexander Antipov and European Marathon champion Leonid Moseyev, and Coach Yuri Tyurin fancies his team's chances. West Germany, who like the Russians will be chasing hard for their first victory, will be spearheaded by Olympic 5,000 metres bronze medalist Klaus-Peter Hildenbrand, now recovered from an Achilles tendon operation. But if the race is to go to a non-European for only the fourth time in 76 years the best bet could be American Craig Virgin, who is also optimistic about the United States' chances of grabbing the team title they narrowly missed last year. The Greenpark course looks comparatively tame, with few obvious hazards, though a series of deceptive inclines could take their toll in the later stages. Weather conditions are bright and cold, with light snow possible at the weekend.

Malmö and Austria Wien draw in European Soccer Cup semifinals

ZURICH, Switzerland, March 23 (R) — Swedish part-timers Malmö, this season's shock team of Europe, were today drawn against Austria Wien in the semifinals of the European Soccer Cup. In the other semifinal games, West German champions Cologne will meet England's Nottingham Forest in what promises to be a thrilling and hard-fought clash next month. Malmö became the first Swedish club to reach the last four of Europe's leading club competition when they crushed Poland's Wisla Krakow 4-1 at home last Wednesday for a 5-3 aggregate win. Few critics expected Malmö to get past their first round opponents, Monaco of France, but they swept to victory and then disposed of Soviet champions Dinamo Kiev to reach the quarter-finals.

Austria Wien, last season's beaten finalists in the European Cup-Winners' Cup, had a nasty shock in the first round, losing their opening match against Vllaznia Shkoder of Albania. The Albanians were making a rare trip into Europe, and almost caused a major upset, but Wien recovered in front of their Austrian fans. England's Nottingham Forest, in their bid for the trophy, knocked out the holders Liverpool in round one. Liverpool, England's top team for many years, had captured the European Cup in 1977 and successfully defended it the following year. It was a flying start for Forest and they surged on to defeat Athens of Greece and Switzerland's Grasshoppers Zurich. The winners of their clash with Cologne will almost certainly start favourites to triumph in the finals at Munich on May 30. Cologne beat Scotland's Glasgow Rangers 2-1 in the quarter-finals, both goals coming from international striker Dieter Mueller.

Tracy Austin upsets Chris Evert

NEW YORK, March 23 (R) — Sixteen-year-old Tracy Austin, winning 12 of the last 13 games, upset second-seeded Chris Evert 6-3, 6-1 to advance to the semi-finals of the \$275,000 women's championship tennis tournament.

Britain's greatest conductor was also a wit and raconteur

By Denham Ford

Sir Thomas Beecham was once described by critic Neville Cardus as a complex character. Falstaff, Puck and Malvolio all mixed up, each likely to overwhelm the others: witty, then waggish, supercilious, then genial, kindly, and sometimes cruel: an artist in effecation, yet somehow always himself. Lancashire in his bones, yet a man of the world.

And he was, indeed, a man of infinite variety: a great conductor, impresario, wit, raconteur, bon viveur, widely read and immensely civilised.

Unique among musicians in never having studied at a recognised academy or conservatoire, his conducting was best summed up by the American critic, Olin Downes, who wrote:

"He is a conductor of several definitions: not in the customary sense of the leader of an orchestra, but of a man whom music pours through as electricity pours over a wire. He is made of magic that man, wherefore, when happily conducting, he communicates enthusiasm and joy."

This last element was perhaps the keynote to Beecham's music making, for he communicated enjoyment to players and audiences alike.

Having made his professional orchestral debut in 1899, by 1910 he was embarking on his first London opera season. This consisted of eight works in widely different styles and introduced to England the operas of Richard Strauss. In 1914 he created a sensation by bringing to England for the first time the Russian opera and ballet with the great Chaliapin.

Beecham was for many years artistic director of the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, where he produced more than 100 operas and lost three — fortunes not always his own money.

He also conducted opera in many countries, notably at the Metropolitan in New York and —

Sir Thomas Beecham was not only one of the world's greatest conductors, he was an impresario of note, a wit, a raconteur and much else. His unique gifts endeared him to music lovers in many countries. It is fitting therefore, 100 years after his birth in April 1879, to put his remarkable career in perspective. Beecham died on 8 March 1961 at the age of 82.

at the age of 79 — a memorable season at the Teatro Colon in Buenos Aires. This was to celebrate the theatre's 50th anniversary. He was described as "a man made to measure to refute the traditional portrait of an Englishman... one of Chanceryian exuberance."

Regarded in Britain as the country's greatest conductor and impresario, Beecham was equally highly regarded in other countries. As Olin Downes wrote in 1936: "Last night in Carnegie Hall an audience listened to a man who is in the second place a conductor and in the first a true musician — Sir Thomas Beecham... He conducted without so much as a thought for standards or conventions of stick waving, and he won a sweeping triumph, and astonished and delighted his audience."

Orchestral players throughout the world came to love and respect him, even if some orchestras found his method unorthodox. In England he formed four major orchestras and appeared with many others. He made his American debut in 1928 with the New York Philharmonic, directing a concert which also marked the American debut of Vladimir Horowitz.

He conducted the major American orchestras, as well as those of Amsterdam, Berlin, Paris, Stockholm and Vienna, and orchestras in Australia, South Africa, South America and Switzerland.

Throughout his life he cham-

pioned the music of Frederick Delius, with whose name his own became almost synonymous. A supreme interpreter of Mozart, and Haydn, he was equally noted for his performances of Sibelius, Richard Strauss, Wagner, Schubert and Berlioz among others.

Beecham was a pioneer in many fields. While on a tour of Germany in 1936 he conducted his own London Philharmonic Orchestra in the first magnetic tape recording, copies of which still exist. His recording career in fact began in 1910 and continued until shortly before his death.

In 1950, at the age of 71, he took his Royal Philharmonic Orchestra — which he founded in 1946 — on an extended tour of the United States, the first British orchestra to visit America since 1912, and astonished audiences particularly with his rendition of the Star Spangled Banner.

He was as famous for his wit as for his conducting. Beecham stories abound, both true and apocryphal — although most of them require the flavour of his own telling to do them justice. He had little regard for other conductors, apart from Wilhelm Furtwangler. He called Toscanini "an Italian handmaster". Having appeared with the New York Philharmonic when Toscanini was at the height of his powers, Beecham enquired after the first rehearsal: "Tell me, who has been conducting this orchestra lately?"

In 1959, after a lengthy period abroad, the magazine "Music and

Sir Thomas Beecham

Musicians" wrote of him: "... the most important to his land of Sir Thomas Beecham this has not been simply a back of an acknowledged master. Beecham brought not only the perfection of conducting we have had but full measure in the past, a thing new — something and invigorating that was in the last couple of months."

"It is Beecham's gift, programmes we have all heard of, he is able to feel that we are hearing the first time, make music more enjoyable than conductors his age are able to do, doing this he has swept away cobwebs, revitalised the business of concertgoing, some enthusiasts who were about to waver, and has given a stimulus of quality to weight of quantity was to another."

It has been suggested that Beecham's character, in three separate volumes — his musical career, one many legal and financial and one for his personal life. But it is hoped this brief sketch will give some man whose like we shall again.

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May 21 to June 21: Study a new project that will advance. Forget dull duties that yield you little to what one of character has to suggest so that happiness is in the future.

June 22 to July 21: Keep focused and do an efficient and exact job so that you can increase. Improve your diet if you want your better.

July 22 to Aug. 21: Be more optimistic where your concerned and cement better relations with those more successful. Use a more up-to-date will improve the quality of your work.

Aug. 22 to Sept. 22: Use care in driving and in accidents. Handle problems at home as they can. Entertain friends at home, but make early.

Sept. 23 to Oct. 22: Contact those who can do a better job at your work, but don't spend too much. Be cheerful and impress them favorably. Pay bills on time.

Oct. 23 to Nov. 21: If you listen to what you suggest, you can add much to present work. Your own ideas are too advanced to use favorable impression on newcomers.

Nov. 22 to Dec. 21: Go ahead with your since your thinking is clear and so is your the information you need at right sources. A personal worry in deter your progress.

Dec. 22 to Jan. 20: Seek out an expert at you where practical affairs mean much to listen to a well-meaning friend who has little to control your temper or you get into high.

Jan. 21 to Feb. 19: Pay attention to what friend has to suggest and forget that bigwig busy to help you. Follow rules that apply to.

Feb. 20 to Mar. 20: Stop concentrating on affairs and get busy on the constructive, a conscientious citizen. A higher-up can be in the future but avoid a new contact.

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Mmmmm.....good!



The otter is on the verge of extinction in its natural habitat, with only about fifty left in the north of West Germany. So Schleswig-Holstein nature conservancy department in Kiel is checking their number and environment with a view to breeding otters and ensuring their survival in new surroundings. Fish farmers take a dim view of the otter, but in the wild it normally catches only sick fish, promoting the survival of the fittest. It is a graceful swimmer and a delightful creature. (Dad photo)

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

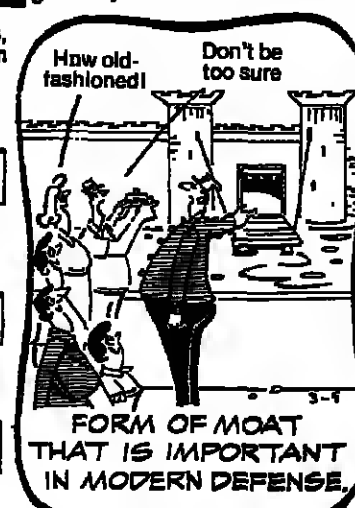
Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

UGOBS

SNAPY

LEEMOT

TAMLED



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here:

Yesterday's Jumbles: CYCLE RODEO WALLOP SYMBOL
Answer: Sometimes knit by men also—EYEBROWS

THE BETTER HALF

By Barnes



"What do you mean, 'I shouldn't have'? I remember what happened last year on your birthday when I DIDN'T!"

THE Daily Crossword

by James Barrick

ACROSS

1 Machine

4 Steep headland

9 Cut into pieces

13 In the know

15 Also-ran

16 Spread unchecked

17 Peregrinate

18 Each without exception

19 Artist's points

20 Body of troops

22 Brook

24 Charger

25 Piano

27 Helmet part

28 Pointe

33 Goddess of the harvest

36 Short skirt

37 Breathed hard

38 — Ericson

40 Old Greek marketplace

42 Equal

43 Memory trace

45 Nevada city

47 Yang's counterpart

48 Take — to (come to like)

49 Duties

51 Star in Gemini

53 Machine for woodworkers

57 Animal, but west

60 Meteorologist's concern

62 Adobe dweller

65 Likewise

67 Oak tree's start

68 Split

69 Youthful suffix

70 Ministers to

71 Crimson

11 Amorous look

12 Nuisance

14 Desert in Israel

21 Taka — view of

23 Miss Miles

26 In advance of

28 House pet

30 Linger partly

31 prof.

32 Paradise

33 Olive genus

34 Pigsties

35 Sound of yearning

39 Conflict

41 Toward the back

44 Med. course

46 Neighbor of Kan.

50 Sylvan deity

62 Minute amount

54 His and her

55 Raise with effort

56 Made a blunder

57 Converse

58 Function

59 — dixit

61 Ages and ages

64 Swindle

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

DOWN

1 Restrains

2 Nautical word

3 Hackman's

4 Extorted money from

5 Sarnade

6 Exploit

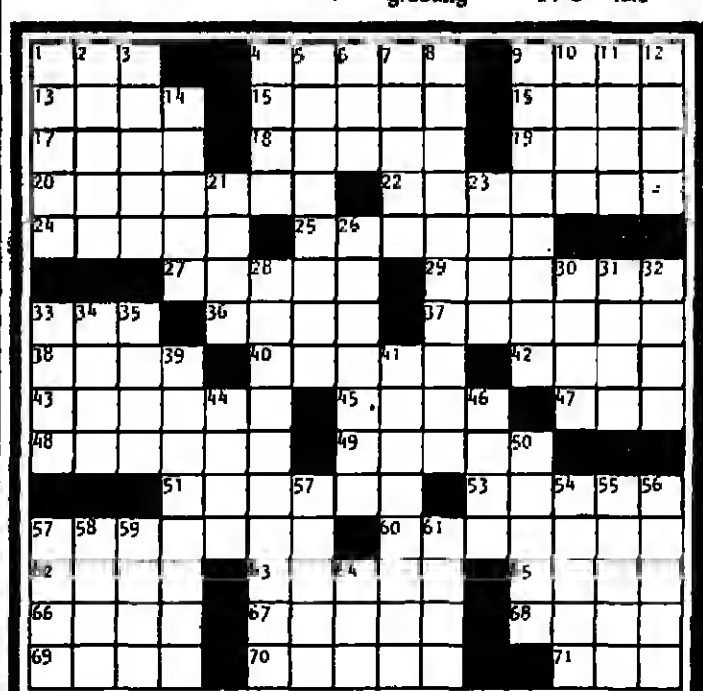
7 Iron comb.

8 Skillets

9 Toasted bread cubes

10 Call out a greeting

2/7/79

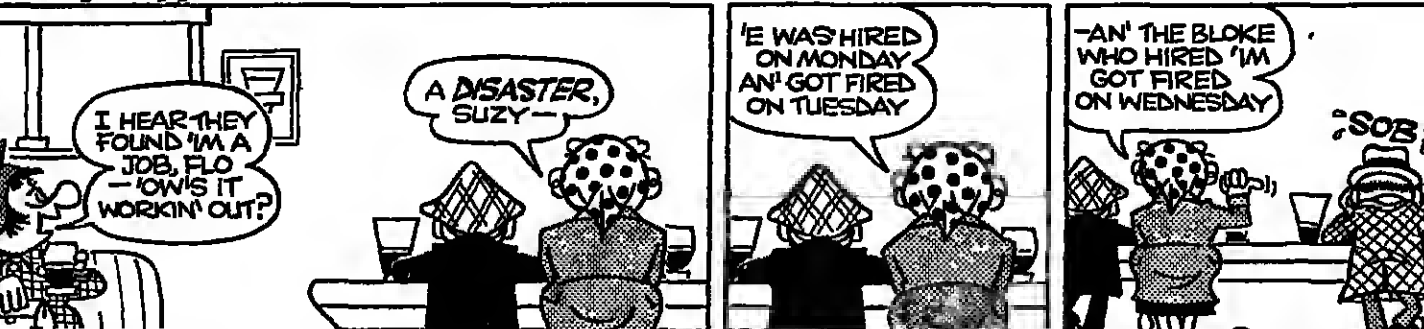


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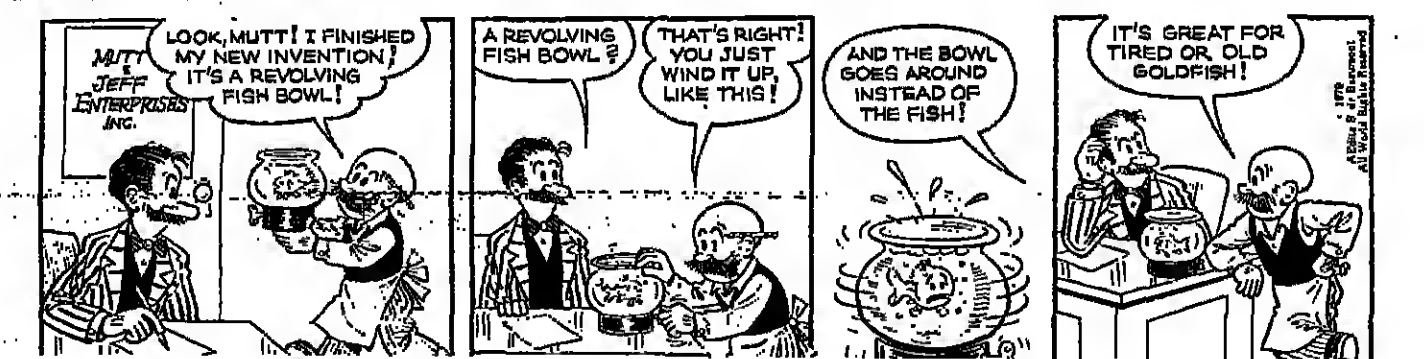
Peanuts



Andy Capp



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Flintstones



JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE

BBC RADIO

04:00 Newsdesk	13:00 News; Commentary
04:30 The Turn of the Screw	13:15 Europe
04:45 Financial News; Weather	13:30 Network U.K.
05:00 News; Press Review	13:45 Classical Record Review
05:15 About Britain	14:00 Saturday Special
05:30 Poetry and Music	15:00 Radio Newswatch
05:45 The World Today	15:15 Saturday Special
06:00 Newsdesk	15:30 News; Commentary
06:15 What's new	16:15 Saturday Special
07:00 News; News about Britain	17:00 News; Book Choice
07:15 From the Westlands	17:15 Continued Performance
07:30 The Voice of the Violin	17:45 Sports Round-up
07:45 Network U.K.	18:00 News; News about Britain
08:00 News; Reflections	18:15 Radio Newswatch
08:15 News; Press Review	18:30 Play of the Week
08:30 World Today	19:30 Benny Grahn's Album Time
09:00 Financial News; Look Ahead	19:45 English Song
09:15 About Britain	20:00 News; Commentary
09:45 Science in Action	20:15 People in Politics
10:15 About Britain	20:30 News; Commentary
10:30 Matthew on Music	21:15 The Book Programme
11:00 News; News about Britain	21:45 Moment Musical
11:15 New Ideas: The Week in Wales	22:00 News; Theatre Call
11:30 Design for Europe	22:30 New Ideas: Reflections
12:00 Radio Newswatch	22:45 Sports Round-up
12:15 Jazz for the Ashes	23:00 News; Commentary
12:45 Sports Round-up	

VOICE OF AMERICA

04:30 The Breakfast show; news on the hour and 28 min. after each hour	19:00 News and This Week
17:00 Weekend	19:30 Press Conference USA
18:00 Special English; news words and their stories, feature, short stories	20:00 Special English; news words
18:30 New York, New York	20:15 Miss USA (Jazz)
	21:00 Weekend

JORDAN TELEVISION

CHANNEL 3	CHANNEL 6
5:30 Quran	6:30 French programme
5:45 Cartoons	7:00 News in French
6:00 Mohammed Ali	7:30 News in Hebrew
6:20 Children's programme	8:00 Comedy
7:10 Return to Poyon Place	9:10 Saturday Variety Show
8:00 News in Arabic	10:00 News in English
8:30 Arabic series	10:15 Executive Suite
9:30 Arabic programme	11:20 — Barnaby Rudge
10:15 Executive Suite	
11:00 News in Arabic	
11:30 Barnaby Rudge	

RADIO JORDAN

7:00 Sign on	14:30 Hay Ibn Yagran
7:01 Morning show	15:00 Concert Hour
7:30 News Bulletin	16:00 News summary
7:40 Morning Show	16:05 Easy listening
10:00 News Headlines	16:30 Old favourites
10:30 As I see it (Joan Rice)	17:00 In concert
11:00 Sign off	17:30 Radiotheque
12:00 Sign on and news headlines	18:00 News summary
12:03 Radiotheque	19:00 News Bulletin
13:00 News summary	19:10 News Reports
19:00 News Bulletin	19:30 Sign off
14:10 Music	

AMMAN AIRPORT

ARRIVALS:	DEPARTURES:
7:50 Cairo (EA)	8:05 Damascus, Munich, Frankfurt (LH)
8:25 Maastricht, Doha (RJ/GF)	7:30 Agaba
9:00 Karachi, Dubai	7:40 Beirut, Paris (AF)
9:15 Kuwait	8:00 Beirut
10:00 Agaba	8:45 Beirut (MEA)
10:15 Tehran	8:55 Cairo (EA)
12:40 Riyadh (SD)	10:30 Baghdad
12:15 Baghdad	11:00 Brussels, Amsterdam
17:30 Frankfurt	11:30 Vienna, Copenhagen, Oslo
18:30 Cairo	12:00 Paris, London
19:00 Baghdad (IA)	13:00 Cairo
19:00 Beirut (MEA)	13:40 Riyadh, Doha (RJ/GF)
22:40 London (BA)	19:00 Jeddah
01:00 Rome (AZ)	20:00 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ/GF)
	20:15 Baghdad (IA)
	23:40 Rawalpindi (BA)
	02:00 Dubai (AZ)

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Moon Odeh (82049)	Tubal
Irish	Tubal
Fakhri Smith (3240)	Tubal
Pharmacies:	Tareq (23024)
Amman	Neel (44433)
Nakurah	Abi (211 27)
Grand (64511)	Taxi (44660)
Cairo (38222)	

CULTURAL CENTRES (Amman)

American Centre	Tel. 41520
British Centre	36147-8
French Cultural Centre	37009
Georgian Centre	41993
Soviet Cultural Centre	44203
Spanish Cultural Centre	24049
Haya Arts Centre	66195
Hanna Youth City	67181
Y.W.C.A.	41793
Y.W.M.C.A.	65111
Amman Municipal Library	36191
University of Jordan Library	65111
Clotel Museum	36191
Folklore Museum	36191

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS (Amman)

Ambulance (government)	Tel. 75111
Civil defence rescue	24391-4
Jordan Electric Power Co. (emergency)	36380-3
Municipal water service (emergency)	37111-3
Police headquarters	39141
Nighttime patrol rescue police (English spoken) 24 hours a day for emergency	31111, 37777
Airport information (ALIA)	52505
Jordan Television	31111
Radio, English Section	74124
First aid, fire, police	19
Fire headquarters	22090

CULTURAL CENTRES (Damascus)

Al Hama Theatre	Tel. 226-448
Al Sha'b Art Gallery	228-527
American Centre	353-362
Arab Cultural Centre	333-727
Bulgarian Cultural Centre	357-901
British Cultural Centre	333-594
Damascus Democratic Republic Cultural Centre	333-922
French Cultural Centre	330-694
Kabbal Theatre	222-016
National Museum	114-854
Soviet Cultural Centre	333-922
Spanish Cultural Centre	334-003
Uman Art Gallery	334-619
Zakariya Public Library	111-318
West German Cultural Institute	224-954

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS (Damascus)

Ambulance (government)	Tel. 90
Chamber of Commerce	118-339
Electric Power Co. (repair)	223-887
Fire headquarters	91
Information	9597
Municipal water service	113-500

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be accepted until 11:00 a.m. on Monday March 26, 1979.

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S. Africa's President Vorster speaks out against Rhodie

CAPE TOWN, March 23 — President John Vorster today broke his silence on the information scandal raging round the South African government with a bitter attack on the central figure Dr. Eschel Rhoedie.

He accused the former information secretary of threatening to bring down the government if former information minister Dr. Connie Mulder was forced to quit the cabinet because of the scandal. "Last year, after I had relinquished the premiership and while Dr. Connie Mulder was still a member of the cabinet, I received a message from Dr. Eschel Rhoedie to the effect that if Dr. Mulder was compelled to abandon his position in the cabinet and the national party, he (Dr. Rhoedie) would see to it that I, the prime minister Mr. P.W. Botha and the members of the cabinet be destroyed — he would bring the temple down on us all," Mr. Vorster said.

"At the time I paid scant attention to the theatrical message. I now have to accept, however, that his present conduct stems from this threat."

The statement by the president, who customarily does not involve himself in controversial issues, was also scathing about Dr. Mulder who resigned after the misuse of millions of rand (dollars) by the information department became known.

Central to the issue was the funding of a pro-government

newspaper, The Citizen, with public money. Dr. Rhoedie, now in hiding overseas and wanted for arrest here, has repeatedly said the whole cabinet knew of the affair. But this has been denied by the present government of Prime Minister Pieter Botha.

Mr. Vorster said he spoke to Dr. Mulder yesterday and asked "why did he allow the Prime Minister and his colleagues to live under a cloud of suspicion, if he knew Dr. Rhoedie was telling an infamous lie."

"His answer to me was that he does not talk to the newspapers. I expressed myself very strongly and told Dr. Mulder that I did not accept his excuse."

Mr. Vorster said Dr. Mulder confirmed in the conversation yesterday that the first time the Citizen project was discussed in a cabinet meeting was in September last year, long after the scandal had begun leaking into the open.

Mr. Vorster said he had never denied secret projects existed. "That does not mean that I accept responsibility for the way that money was used if it was used irregularly," he said.

The president adamantly denied Dr. Rhoedie's assertion that he had been kept fully informed about the Citizen project throughout.

He also strongly denied the allegation that he and Finance Minister Owen Horwood were members of a cabinet committee overseeing the information

department's propaganda war aimed at improving South Africa's international image.

"I want to categorically deny that there was such a committee," Mr. Vorster said.

"The deceitful way in which he (Dr. Rhoedie) is trying to drag Minister Horwood into the affair is highly contemptible. I shall wait until Dr. Rhoedie has told or sold all his lies before I react."

Dr. Rhoedie, who is wanted on fraud and theft charges, showed a document on British television earlier this week carrying Senator Horwood's signature on a request for nearly eight million rand (\$9.2 million) for secret projects.

Mr. Vorster said Dr. Rhoedie had claimed to be in possession of a document signed by Mr. Vorster which could have serious implications.

"I give him the opportunity, with my full permission, to release any such document he may have," he said.

He said that to his knowledge no member of the present cabinet was aware of any irregularities.

Meanwhile, in Washington yesterday, a U.S. senator ridiculed a report that South Africa financially backed his successful election campaign against a liberal rival last November.

Dr. Rhoedie was reported to have documents in his possession showing that South Africa was a major backer of conservative Republican Senator Roger Jepsen.

"The entire episode reminds me of the story of Alice in Wonderland. In that fairy tale, the Mad Hatter ran around telling nonsensical, confused and ridiculous stories and making bizarre statements," said the senator.

In re-evaluating his role in history China to 'de-sanctify' Mao somewhat?

HONG KONG, March 23 (R) — China has begun a delicate task to re-evaluate Mao Tse-Tung's role in history and there are suggestions he will be de-sanctified somewhat and the late premier Chou En-Lai will gain extra prestige. Both Mao and Chou died in 1976.

Before his death, Mao was China's unchallenged party chairman, a venerable demigod considered infallible and the spirit behind all the country's achievements. Chou, a virtuous diplomat and China's most adroit politician, worked in his shadow.

China's officials say now Mao was inaccurately glorified, that he was unjustly deified by his onetime heir-designate defence minister Lin Biao and a clique of radicals led by Mao's widow. "By deifying the leader as omnipotent, infallible and flawless, they deified themselves," the Peking Workers' Daily explained in an article on the fallibility of leaders. "Our leader never regarded himself as a born saint."

The people's party newspaper, paid tribute to Chou's prodigious talents on March 5 on what would have been his 81st birthday, saying the late premier's achievements "were greater than anyone in China" — a suggestion that they surpassed even those of Mao. Chou — not Mao — has now become the model to follow in what Peking's propagandists call the new long march, the country's ambitious programme to push China to a

state of relative modernity before the end of this century.

"In learning from comrade Chou En-Lai today on our new long march, we should particularly advocate an approach that takes the interests of the whole into account, as comrade Chou En-Lai did. With far-sightedness, comrade Chou En-Lai firmly grasped right and wrong throughout his life." The move to de-sanctify Mao and put him in his proper historical perspective is being condoned gingerly. He has not been criticised by name although some of the denunciations of his policies have come pretty close.

One of the boldest attacks was leveled by former propaganda chief Lu Dingyi (Lu Ting) in an article which praised Chou and also referred to a party central committee meeting in Lushan in 1959 when Mao fired the late defence minister Peng Dehuai for criticising the party chairman's ill-advised "great leap forward" economic movement. "It is now very clear that comrade Peng Dehuai's proposals at the Lushan meeting in 1959 were correct," the article said. Lu said it was also at the Lushan meeting that an "erroneous left tendency line" developed and this ended only in 1976 when the radicals were deposed. Chinese observers here suspect this could be another move to implicate Mao in the radical leadership and possibly suggest that Mao's conduct after the 1959 conference should be reviewed.

French steelworkers march to protest gov't job plans

PARIS, March 23 (AP) — Tens of thousands of steelworkers, protesting government plans that threaten their jobs, converged on the French capital this morning in a "March on Paris" that was paralyzing over half the city.

An early group occupied the twin towers of Notre Dame and beat the cathedral's great bell rung as they uncrolled a banner high on the towers.

It read "CGT, solidarity.

Longwy." The march is organized by the communist-led Confederation Generale du Travail (General Labour Confederation). The nation's largest union grouping, Longwy, a steel town in eastern France, has become a symbol of the steelworkers' protest movement.

Thousands of other workers were joining the steelmen in solidarity and protest against the tough economic policies of Pre-

mier Raymond Barre. Organisers expected at least 50,000 marchers. Mr. Barre's government, which took virtual control of the near bankrupt steel industry last year, is pushing through a drastic modernisation plan that threatens 35,000 jobs in the next two years in eastern and northern towns such as Longwy and Denain.

Months of local protests, sometimes violent, have culminated in today's "March on Paris" — in fact by special trains and buses to the city outskirts.

There the marchers were forming five columns that were marching through the eastern half of the city. They were joining together on the historic route of mass demonstrations in Paris, past the Bastille and the Place De La Republique, to disperse at the Opera.

The march was disrupting traffic in half the city. Shopkeepers feared the march would be followed by violence, not from the well-organised steelworkers, but from small anarchist groups expected to follow them.

More confusion was caused this morning by power cuts called by electricity workers.

Swede arrested for 'Soviet espionage'

STOCKHOLM, March 23 (AP) — A Swedish former U.N. officer has been arrested by the police, suspected of having sold Swedish defence secrets to the Soviet

Union. Stockholm newspapers reported today.

The 42-year-old officer was arrested by Israeli police when he arrived in Tel Aviv and was sent back to Sweden, where he was arrested on charges of illicit intelligence activities against Sweden. Newspaper reports said he had also been charged with espionage. The maximum penalty for espionage is life. The papers quoted an unidentified source as saying "he has done as much damage as Colonel Stig Wennerstrom." Wennerstrom handed over top secret documents to the Soviets in the 60's and was later sentenced to life.

Pakistan to hold elections Nov. 17

RAWALPINDI, March 23 (R) — President Zia-ul-Haq today announced general elections will be held in Pakistan on November 17 but said his government will not permit political disruption in the election campaign.

General Zia said he intended to make amendments to the constitution beforehand to ensure a smooth transfer of power and a stable government. Pakistan would retain its federal-parliamentary system, but he added that amendments to the constitution would bring a balance of powers between the prime minister and the president. If the president were given sufficient authority to defend the constitution in times of crisis, the nation could avoid martial law in future, he said.

Scores of clemency appeals have been pouring in to the capital urging General Zia to spare the life of the deposed premier but the military ruler has repeatedly said that he would make no change in the court's decision.

The ex-premier's cousin, Mumtaz Ali Bhutto, who also served as a minister in his cabinet, yesterday met him in his prison cell for the first time since their government was toppled by a military coup in July 1977.

Four officers of the disbanded federal security force involved in the political murder with Mr. Bhutto have already appealed for mercy. All of them had confessed their role in the murder in 1974.

Court gives verdict today on Bhutto review petition

RAWALPINDI, March 23 (R) — The Supreme Court will give its verdict on Saturday on a review petition by former Pakistani premier Zulfikar Ali Bhutto sentenced to death for ordering a political murder, court officials said yesterday.

In a split judgment last month, four out of a total seven judges of the bench confirmed the death sentence on the ex-premier but allowed his counsel to file a review petition.

The court began hearing the petition on February 24 and reserved its judgment on March 17.

If the court dismisses the petition, Mr. Bhutto's fate would largely depend on a mercy petition which he can file within seven days to military President General Zia Ul Haq.

Mr. Bhutto himself has ruled out such a possibility but sources in his family say they believe that one of his uncles may make such a move.

The sodium-potassium ratio was constant and normal in the control group of young people with no family history of high blood-pressure.

"This result, which seems to indicate genetic transmission, suggests that measurement of sodium and potassium red blood cell fluxes may help to detect subjects liable to high blood-pressure," the team wrote in Lancet.

transmitted," Mr. Meyer said.

This abnormality in the cell membrane results in unusual ratios of sodium and potassium in the red cells and possibly in other cells throughout the body of the high blood-pressure sufferer, Mr. Meyer said.

"But we know such anomalies also exist in the membranes of cancer cells," he said. "We have only opened an entire new avenue of hypothesis."

Mr. Meyer, working with his Necker colleagues Ricardo P. Garay and Mrs. Monique De Mendonca, used sophisticated techniques of flame chromatography to study the red blood cells of high blood-pressure patients, young people with a family history of high blood-pressure, and a control group of young people with no such family history.

What they found were abnormally high ratios of sodium to potassium in young people with family histories of high blood-pressure and in all the high blood-pressure sufferers, except those suffering kidney ailments.

Portugal plunges into new political, economic crisis

LISBON, March 23 (R) — Portugal plunged into a new political and economic crisis today following defeat of the four-month-old non-party government on its 1979 austerity budget.

Informed government sources expected Prime Minister Carlos Mota Pinto, a 42-year-old law professor, to offer his resignation. But President Antonio Ramalho Eanes, who appointed him last November, is abroad until next Monday on a tour of communist eastern Europe.

Rejection of the unpopular budget proposals became inevitable after a decision by both major

parties, the Socialists of former premier Mario Soares and the Centre-Right Social Democrats (PSD) led by Oporto lawyer Francisco Sa Carneiro, to abstain in the crucial vote.

But there were signs of a split in the social democratic ranks over Dr. Sa Carneiro's decision to drop support for the Mota Pinto government. The PSD leader has been urging early general elections to solve the national crisis, and has accused the president of failing to give sufficient support to the government in its controversial programme of handing back some collectivised farmlands to private ownership.

French doctors devise test that can detect risk of high blood pressure

PARIS, March 23 (AP) — In an important medical advance, three Paris doctors have devised a relatively simple blood test that helps detect an individual's tendency toward high blood-pressure.

The test, when fully developed, could alert millions to take precautionary measures, such as cutting salt intake, to prevent the onset of the often hereditary, potentially dangerous condition, the research team has concluded.

At this point, the test is too expensive to be used on a mass scale. But the research team feels it should soon be used to determine if persons with a family history of high blood-pressure are themselves at risk.

Professor Philippe Meyer, head of the team working at Paris' highly respected Necker Hospital, cautioned in a recent interview that the precise cause of high blood-pressure is not yet clear.

"We have shown that in those people with high blood-pressure there is an anomaly in the membranes of the red blood cells and that this anomaly is genetically

Camera-bearing dolphins will search for Loch Ness monster

NEW YORK, March 23 (AP) — Two dolphins are being trained in Florida aid explorers in their search this summer for the Loch Ness monster in the Scottish lake Ness, the New York Times reported yesterday.

Dr. Robert H. Rines, who has led a Loch Ness expedition each summer for the past decade, said the animals will carry cameras and strobe lights to survey the deep waters, according to the newspaper. The equipment will be attached to harnesses or vests, Dr. Rines said.

In training sessions the dolphins have found, tracked, and photographed underwater creatures such as sea turtles, the Times quoted Dr. Rines as saying.

This summer's team will be sponsored by the Academy of Applied Science of Boston. Experts from the U.S. Navy's San Diego Research Centre have been consulted on the care and training of the dolphins.

The dolphins, ocean inhabiting mammals, have been training in fresh water and will soon be acclimated to colder water, said Dr. Rines. At Loch Ness, they will be held in salt-water tanks and be released daily into the lake's fresh water for a few hours of underwater searching.

According to legend, the Loch Ness monster inhabits a lake in Scotland. Scientists have unsuccessfully tried to locate the monster although villagers have reported occasional sightings.

World News Briefs

Guerrillas kill Israeli consul in El Salvador

SAN SALVADOR, March 23 (R) — The left-wing Armed Forces of National Resistance (FARN) said yesterday it killed one of four hostages, local businessman Ernesto Liebes whose body found last night. The FARN communique did not mention the fate of the other three — British bankers Ian Massie and Mike Chatterton and Japanese businessman Takakazu Suzuki. The guerrilla group had threatened to kill all four captives unless ransom demands were met. The FARN communique said Liebes, honorary Israeli consul in El Salvador, was killed because Israel had refused to negotiate for his freedom. The communique said FARN would continue to kidnap business and put "war criminals" on trial.

China postpones construction for lack of funds

HONG KONG, March 23 (R) — China has called for postponement of certain capital construction projects, saying national economy has been overextended. Peking's Xinhua (Hsinhua) news agency warned unless readjustment the overall capital construction plan is made, China's modernisation programme will be jeopardised. Although it has been speculated that China's national economy has been extended, the report, as far as can be seen, is a reluctant acknowledgement. The report, dated yesterday, was part by the Hong Kong communist newspaper Ta Kung Pao. Wen Wei Po, said a survey showed national capital construction in 1978 totaled "tens of thousands." It said "the material and financial ability, they will not be able to support at least several years." Details of what kind of projects were stopped or postponed were not mentioned.

Tehran: Last bar falls to Islamic revolution

TEHRAN, March 23 (R) — One of the last bastions of legal drinking in Iran fell to the Islamic revolution yesterday. Tehran's Intercontinental Hotel shut its bars and stopped alcohol with restaurant meals. Waiters told crestfallen guests the capital's revolutionary committee had banned further sales after Moslem activists Wednesday smashed thousands of bottles of liquor in several Tehran hotels — only a few days before scheduled referendum on the setting up of an Islamic Republic. Tehran has been virtually "dry" for months. Anti-Shah demonstrators in the past year destroyed scores of bars, liquor and alcohol-serving restaurants. But hotels catering for a mainly foreign clientele were the last pockets of alcoholic resistance to enforcement of Islamic tenets. Some restaurants still serve but disguise it in soft drink bottles and charge exorbitant. A bottle of scotch whisky now fetches at least 4,000 rials.

Lusaka: Cop kills two, flees with payroll

LUSAKA, March 23 (R) — A Zambian policeman shot and killed two men and a woman and fled with a payroll he was supposed to be guarding, police said today. The shooting happened on a country road outside Lusaka while the policeman was escorting a wages delivery to council workers, said a spokesman.

Dutch police believe Sir Richard assassinated by Irish extremists

THE HAGUE, March 23 (R) — Police trying today to find out who killed Britain's ambassador to Holland say they assume he was murdered by republican extremists opposed to British rule in Northern Ireland.

Two British police officers were to arrive this morning from London to join a special squad of 25 Dutch detectives in the hunt for the two assassins of Sir Richard Sykes, gunned down yesterday morning outside his city centre residence. A footman was also killed.

A police spokeswoman in The Hague said last night there was no firm clue to the identities of the gunmen who murdered the 58-year-old envoy and 19-year-old servant Karel Straub.

Although no one has admitted responsibility, police said they were working on the assumption that Irish republican extremists were to blame. Before moving to The Hague in

June, 1977, — his last diplomatic post before retirement — Sir Richard was appointed by British Prime Minister James Callaghan to report on the 1976 murder of Britain's ambassador in Dublin, Christopher Ewart-Biggs.

A post-mortem showed the victims had been killed with two guns and a total of eight bullets had been fired, the police spokeswoman said.

Sir Richard, a defence affairs specialist and former deputy undersecretary of state at the Foreign Office, was hit by four bullets from a heavy-calibre pistol and his footman by two shots in the head with a lighter-calibre revolver. Two bullets missed.

One shot pierced the ambassador's brain and caused his death and the other shots struck him in the chest, the autopsy revealed.

Police earlier quoted witnesses as saying only one long-barrel pistol was used in the attack, which took place as the ambassador

stepped into his silver Rolls Royce to go to

A task force of 25 Dutch detectives worked through evidence

It was the first time a Dutch police officer had been killed.

Several people reported hearing the shooting. Included Sir Richard's Jack Wilson, and British Office Secretary Aiy who was in the back of the limousine when it

One of the unexplained reasons why the assassinations were regarded by colleagues as an expert on the embassies, was left in

Hague chief police Nico Laterveer last

former earlier report

policeman was with

Electric vehicles: Coming quietly along

The rising cost of oil, boosted further by shortages arising from events in Iran, has given fresh impetus to the technical search for a viable electric car.

By Peter Cartwright

LONDON — Battery electric passenger vehicles, long an unfulfilled promise, are becoming more of an economic proposition every time oil prices go up. Events in Iran, casting an uneasy shadow over other Middle East oil countries, have given another powerful impetus to developments.

Initial euphoria over early prospects of noiseless, fumeless city cars and buses faded because of the problems in developing more powerful batteries.

However, since then research and development programmes in Europe, America, Japan and Russia, initiated because of the steady depletion of fossil fuels, have been injected with a new urgency. The international battle to put competitive electric vehicles on the market is getting hot. The rewards in terms of selling systems to the world could be immense and the cross-over point between potential and viability is narrowing significantly.

Britain's technical leadership in battery and control system developments is under heavy attack. The Americans, with their characteristic approach to cracking tough technical problems, are in the midst of a \$60 million pro-

gramme. The Department of Energy is extending the project to 10,000 demonstration vehicles of various types. Eight American battery makers are cooperating in the development of new nickel/zinc, nickel/iron and other advanced types as well as conventional lead/acid batteries.

Among the first fruits of the exercise will be 35 specially adapted electric vehicles (E-Vs) from General Motors before the end of the year. The urgency of the programme is illustrated by a two-year waiver of the Buy American Act. They are prepared to buy technology from anywhere in the world.

Besides batteries and control systems designed to give the same response as conventional vehicles, the programme, like others, takes in battery chargers, regenerative braking (using braking energy to recharge batteries) and new materials.

Japan is no less determined to be first and has an impressive track record in the world motor industry. Its programme takes in all types of vehicles from commuter cars to trucks and buses. Already more than £10 million has been spent and an electric vehicle engineering research association has been set up with an ini-

tial \$650,000 a year budget. The aim is to have a commercially viable vehicle on the road by the mid-1980s — or sooner if possible.

As a half-way measure the Japanese are developing, along with other countries, hybrid vehicles to give the range of a petrol/diesel vehicle with fumeless city driving. Tokyo has smog problems similar to Los Angeles. A strong contender is a van, or truck, with a 1,500 kilogram payload, that would cover 80 per cent of Japanese domestic requirements. Specification is a top speed of 80 kilometres per hour and a 280 kilometre range. Daihatsu is a front runner to be the first company to develop it.

In Europe, France has advanced dual-powered trolley buses with autonomous diesel units in series production. In Tours, the most important electric bus centre, four lead/acid powered

buses have been doing an average 760 kms a month carrying 450 passengers daily.

Third generation buses from Savem include a 30-seater with nickel/cadmium batteries said to be capable of being partially recharged in about the time it takes to fill a petrol or diesel tank. They are due to enter service this year.

In 1976 the French launched an international competition that attracted 40 entries from 17 competitors in three categories of light trucks, vans and lightweight vehicles. One of the winners in its class was the British company, Lucas, which now goes into this year's round.

Not surprisingly, the Germans have a thorough-going programme. One of its most intriguing hybrids is the Volkswagen city taxi with a limited battery and fuel sources — the kind of thing for

resort towns to cut down pollution. It can travel 300 kms, but only 19 kms on batteries alone. The failure rate of components is so far good.

In addition 130 vans are running around, and in recent years 20 battery-operated buses have taken more than 20 million people 2.7 million kms. German experts believe that in the next few years battery vehicles will probably be the most energy-economical solution for short distance traffic.

In the U.K., bus projects have so far been limited to battery-powered vehicles that have been familiar in Manchester, Leeds and other cities. But these are an influential body of opinion favouring "combat" buses — combined diesel/battery buses. A strong future is seen for them. Otherwise the feeling is that battery-operated vehicles will first be seen in the shape of vans and light trucks with up to three tonnes carrying capacity.

The success of the British programme rests chiefly on two government-aided battery makers, allied to vehicle producers Chloride and Chrysler. Lucas and Bedford (General Motors) Chrysler has recently been acquired by PSA Peugeot Citroen. But because Chrysler's Kammer truck and van operations do not directly

compete with Peugeot

of interest that would

Chloride programme. The government's

the EV programme. The joint

Electricity Council sodium/sulphur

300 degrees centigrade has £2.2 million, at

erminent is paying £400,000 for the

ment involving E newspapers parcels

the post. Lighter, more

series are the key to

future. Compared with

batteries, a nickel/hy

that being developed

offers a 20 per cent

with a doubled high

acceleration. Effort

reduce the weight is

ten per cent with

sulphur battery, to

increase range and

life. Unfortunately, a

prototype battery de

ramme rests chiefly

on two

government-aided battery

makers

allied to vehicle producers

Chloride and Chrysler. Lucas

and Bedford (General Motors)

Chrysler has recently been

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